

Hafa Adai!

Happy Liberation Day!

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 157

SATURDAY JULY 3, 2010

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



## OPINION METER

This week's poll:  
Do you support the \$10  
fee being charged  
campers who will set up  
tents in public lands  
along the Liberation Day  
parade route?

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to cast your vote.

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President Obama blames the delay in immigration reform on recalcitrant Republicans.

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### ePassports

A total of 89 e-passport applications have been processed since June 27.

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### Record Haul

Fans are over the moon for "Eclipse," which pulled in \$68.5 million in its first day.

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# Govt employees get paid on time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Thousands of government employees got their salaries on time yesterday, just in time for the three-day Fourth of July weekend.

The Department of Finance's Treasury Division started releasing checks to government employees at around 2pm, but only timekeepers and representatives were asked to pick up the checks for their agency or office.

See EMPLOYEES on Page 4

## But cash flow problems delay PSS salaries until last minute

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

Locally funded employees of the Public School System received their salaries late afternoon yesterday due to cash flow problems with the government's general fund.

PSS finance director Richard Waldo said it was already past 4pm yesterday when they got the Finance Department notification that funds have already been transferred. *Saipan Tribune* learned that Finance transferred See SALARIES on Page 4

## ROAD CLOSURE

The Department of Public Safety will be closing the following sections of the road for the Liberation Day Parade tomorrow, July 4, 2010:

■ From Beach Road Quarter Master Tank intersection all the way north to the intersection by Martha's Store or in front of the Mobil Service Station in Garapan.

■ The northbound lane will be closed from 8am to 9:30am in preparation of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.

■ At 9:30am to 12pm, both the north and southbound lanes will be closed for the duration of the parade.

DPS urges all parade viewers to travel safe and to arrive early to their designated areas before the closing of the highways. No exceptions will be made once the highways are closed to ensure the safety of everyone. (DPS)



From left, Franzie Elieisar, 8, Jacob Teregeyo, 9, and MJ Elieisar, 4, play in one of three tents set up on a spot reserved by their families along Beach Road in Garapan yesterday afternoon, to guarantee a good view of the Fourth of July parade along this route.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
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REPORTER

Community members who secured permits from the Department of Land

## Families stick with LibDay camping tradition

and Natural Resources began setting up their tents yesterday along Beach Road in anticipation of tomorrow's Liberation Day parade.

A male Kagman resident who wished

to remain anonymous told *Saipan Tribune* he got his permit on Tuesday and erected the tent the following day.

He said that putting up the tent in See FAMILIES on Page 4

Only 383 of 602 beat deadline to renew licenses to sell alcohol. PAGE 2  
House asks feds to reclassify nightingale reed-warbler. PAGE 3

# Local

## SIGN OF THE TIMES

### Only 383 of 602 beat deadline to renew licenses to sell alcohol

**» Grace period to save businesses from automatic license suspension**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Only 383 or 64 percent of the 602 business establishments on Saipan that currently have licenses to sell alcoholic beverages beat the June 30 deadline to renew their licenses as the local economy continues to dwindle that lead to businesses downsizing or shutting down.

But David Maratita, direc-

tor of the Department of Commerce's Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division, said a grace period of three working days will save the 219 other businesses from an automatic suspension of their licenses.

"This means they have until July 6 to renew their license because July 5 is a holiday. If their renewal fees remain unpaid after that, their license will be automatically suspended pursuant to 4 CMC Section 5528," Maratita told *Saipan Tribune*.

Small and large businesses—from grocery stores to mom and pop stores and bars—are required to obtain license to

sell alcoholic beverage from the ABTC Division and renew those license annually.

The ABTC Division previously said they expected 601 businesses to renew their licenses to sell alcoholic beverages, but this was later raised to 602. And so far, 383 businesses, including, for example, Hafa Adai Shopping Center in Garapan, have complied with this requirement.

"Yes, we have renewed our license, and it's dated June 28, 2010," said Roy Terayama, store supervisor at the Hafa Adai Shopping Center, which is one of the most popular retail and grocery stores in the CNMI.

Elsa Estayan, store supervisor at Sara Market on Capital Hill, said yesterday that some two weeks before the July 1 expiration of their license to sell alcohol, they already applied for a renewal of that license to avoid penalties.

"We are just waiting for the renewed license to come in," Estayan said in a telephone interview.

Maratita said licenses that remain suspended as of July 31, 2010 due to unpaid renewal fees will automatically be revoked and the secretary of Commerce shall not issue a renewal license.

Moreover, businesses

whose licenses to sell alcohol remains revoked as of July 31, 2010 will be required to submit a new application for license for consideration by the Commerce secretary.

Maratita said ABTC Division enforcement personnel will conduct inspections of businesses as early as the week of July 12, to ensure compliance.

"We will identify establishments that did not renew their license, to see whether that's because they already stopped selling alcohol, closed down the business, or just didn't renew their license and selling alcohol illegally," the division director added.

In mid June, only 94 of these businesses renewed their license, but the ABTC Divi-

sion saw a surge in renewal application towards the June 30 deadline.

Maratita said the renewal rate for the license to sell alcohol started declining in Fiscal Year 2000. Between 1995 and 2000, the number of alcoholic beverage control license averaged at 850 every year. This dropped to an annual average of 750 between 2000 and 2005, and further decreased to an average of 600 annually between 2005 and 2009.

ABTC license application forms are available online at [www.commerce.gov.mp](http://www.commerce.gov.mp), or may be obtained at the Department of Commerce office on Capital Hill. For more information, call the ABTC Division at 664-3065.

couple of weeks ago. More than 400 students attended the event. This is a positive sign that our enrollment will be positively impacted this coming Fall," Merfalen said.

For those who wish to register for Summer Session II, they can visit [www.nmcnet.edu](http://www.nmcnet.edu) for more information.

Last semester, NMC accommodated nearly 900 students, including foreign and regular students. The improved enrollment figure was attributed to improved confidence in the college, which got its accreditation reaffirmed in June 2009.

In an exit poll conducted among all public high schools on three islands, majority of seniors expressed a desire to continue their education at NMC. The rest want to go to the military and other universities and colleges after graduation.

### Rape suspect's bid to modify bail denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied "at this time" a bid by one of the suspects in the kidnapping and rape of a 16-year-old student in Kagman to modify his bail.

In a written order issued Thursday, Wiseman said that Angel Jess Santos' motion has left the court only with a third party custodian and no security.

Police arrested the 21-year-old Santos on June 18. He was subsequently charged with kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at \$100,000 cash.

Santos, through assistant public defender Richard Miller, asked to have his bail changed to a property bond consisting of two real properties and releasing him to a third party custodian.

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher opposed the motion.

Wiseman heard the motion

on Tuesday and placed the matter under advisement as Henry C. Sablan, the proposed third party custodian, has been a third party custodian in three previous unrelated cases. Santos is Sablan's nephew.

The judge noted that Sablan's being a third party custodian in other cases is not a negative factor, but that the court believes it requires further review.

In his written order Thursday, Wiseman said the court will accept Sablan as a third party custodian.

Wiseman said the proposed properties, one of which was recently granted a homestead deed, are not constitutionally eligible for posting as security.

Santos had allegedly confessed to being one of three persons who kidnapped the victim, saying he only served as a lookout as one of them raped the victim at Tank Beach on June 16.

Police have already arrested the second suspect, ex-convict Ivan Jones Castro. Police are still hunting down the third suspect, reportedly a juvenile.

### NMC 2010 summer enrollment up

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College posted a slight increase in its summer enrollment, with 257 students so far registering for

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Participants of the recently held "Cash for College" event fill out application forms for the Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid.

the program.

This is slightly higher than the 248 who enrolled last summer. The college expects the number to increase as registration for the summer II session is still ongoing.

In a statement to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, NMC said it has been aggressively working to recruit students for the Fall 2010 semester. Various recruitment events were held earlier this year to encourage public

and private high school students to consider NMC for their college education.

Bobbie Merfalen expressed satisfaction with the overall turnout of their recruitment campaign in public and private schools, due in large part to the positive feedback they got from incoming students.

"We are pleased to see that many people continue to turn to the Northern Marianas College for their academic and professional training," said Merfalen, adding that they will continue with their recruitment efforts throughout the summer for the Fall 2010 semester.

She disclosed that the college posted a very high turnout during its recent "Cash for College" seminars.

"Our recruitment team just completed the third 'Cash for College' event that was held a

### Happy Liberation Day!

As we celebrate Liberation Day, we stand together to honor the people who have shed blood and tears to give us freedom and democracy.

Greetings from  
**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



## House asks feds to reclassify nightingale reed-warbler

**» Torres: Bird hampering economic gain for CNMI**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives approved on an 18-0 vote a resolution asking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acting director Rowan Gould to support a review for reclassification of the nightingale reed-warbler from the endangered species list in the CNMI, saying the bird has been hampering the islands' chance to grow its economy.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), who has long been pushing for the reclassification of the reed warbler, said land clearing for investment and private land development is an impediment for many investors and residents because many reed-warblers have populated these areas, "thus hampering

## Ex-convict gets four years for beating up OPM staff

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

An ex-convict who assaulted an employee of the Office of Personnel Management at Tank Beach in Kagman last year was slapped with a four-year prison term yesterday.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Dickson T. Cosmes to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for four years, for assault with a dangerous weapon, with no possibility of parole.

Cosmes was given credit for the time he had already served in jail.

After serving his sentence, Cosmes, 25, will be placed on four years probation.

He was also required to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 court fees, plus probation fee, and to perform 100 hours of community service.

## Customer sues Winchell's for sharp cut on his pinky

A customer has sued Winchell's for a sharp cut on his pinky allegedly caused by the donut shop's entrance door two years ago.

Arnold Mendiola, through counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, sued Winchell's Inc. for negligence.

Saipan Tribune contacted Winchell's yesterday afternoon, but no one was available to comment.

Mendiola asked the Superior Court to order Winchell's to pay him damages for medical care and expenses, pain, suffering, emotional distress, mental anguish, and diminished quality of life. He also demanded attorney's fees and court costs.

the opportunity for economic gain for the CNMI."

He said many of these private and public lands are prime investment locations in the CNMI.

Torres' House Resolution 17-15 also asks the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for a recount of the bird.

The House adoption of this resolution came about a year after Torres introduced a related resolution asking Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan to back the reed-warbler's removal from the endangered list.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the reed-warbler as an endangered species on Dec. 2, 1970 due to the declining population of the species.

But the population of the reed-warbler has grown since 1970 and continues to grow in abundance at least on Saipan, said Torres in his resolution.

The longest-serving House member said with the expanded population of the reed-warbler, "they are nesting out of their real

habitat at the karisu wetlands and in multiple areas, such as cliff line caves, tall sword grass around the airport, kalaskas and flame trees everywhere."

"Especially where the ivy gourd vines grow, the birds have been seen eating the ripened fruit of the gourds and sporadically spreading the growth of the unsightly, smutty, and environmentally damaging gourds," Torres added.

He also said that reed-warblers inhabit Kagman lease farming plots on Saipan, making land farming very difficult due to federal regulations protecting these birds.

"This restriction does not protect the birds or guarantee protection; and the over protection of the nightingale reed-warbler may even serve to harm the

birds in cases where land own-

ers may actively try to harass and chase away birds that they would tolerate or even enjoy seeing in a different context

where their presence would not hinder economic development or construction," Torres said in his resolution.

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MONETH G. DEPOSA

Officials and representatives of the partner agencies of the Kagman Juvenile Facility's First Garden Project stand inside the donated green house during the project's launch yesterday in Kagman.



## FAMILIES

From Page 1

time for the Liberation Day parade has been a tradition in his family for more than 10 years now.

The \$10 fee imposed by DLNR for all those who would set up a tent along the parade route did not hinder him or his family from breaking the tradition. "It's just once a year anyway," he said.

DLNR imposed for the first time the

\$10 temporary permit fee for spectators who want to set up tents along the Liberation Day parade route.

With their tent set up, he said he is able to take his kids away from television, outside the comfort of their own home to enjoy outdoor activities such as swimming and camping.

Perry Inos Jr. said when the newspaper published the need to secure a permit for the use of land along the parade route, they immediately applied for one.

Inos, whose family has been putting

up a tent for the Liberation Day parade for the last three years, said the \$10 fee is not too much to ask for a 10x20 piece of land. "It's a good restriction," he said.

Inos said their family has prepared all camping necessities, adding that not even a rain shower will stop them from enjoying the Liberation Day parade.

Thousands of community members are expected to join the annual Liberation Day festivities organized by the Saipan Mayor's Office.



Dylan Joseph Inos, 8, and his sister Elizabeth Inos, 10, sit cozily in a tent set up on a spot reserved by their family along Beach Road in Garapan yesterday afternoon, to guarantee a good view of the Fourth of July parade along this route.

## SALARIES

From Page 1

mitted about \$1 million to cover PSS personnel cost for this pay period.

School administrators were informed of the availability of funds around 4:30pm.

Because of the delay, Waldo said all employees were issued paper checks by their respective schools. All PSS employees were expected to get their salaries between yesterday and today.

PSS has 700 to 800 employees who

get their salaries from local funds, Waldo said.

According to Angela Wheat, classroom teacher at Kagman Elementary School and president of the Association of Commonwealth Teachers, many employees were disappointed upon learning about the delay in their salaries.

PSS employees get their compensation either through direct deposit or paper checks. This time, all personnel were issued paper checks.

Many PSS employees expressed relief yesterday when they finally got their checks at 4:40pm. Because it

was a bit late, many of them said they plan to get their checks today.

Since PSS is an autonomous agency, Wheat said the central government should consider separating the school system from employees under the general fund.

She believes that a lump-sum budget for PSS may prevent the incident from happening again.

All departments, including PSS, receive their personnel budget through allotments from the general fund.

Besides PSS, employees from other agencies also experienced a delay in their salaries yesterday.

## Juvenile Detention's First Garden Project unveiled

» Over \$6K greenhouse, seeds donated

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

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REPORTER

D.K.K. Inc. turned over a \$6,000 greenhouse to the Kagman Detention Facility yesterday in what is being envisioned as a first step toward providing life skills to youths housed at the facility.

Measuring 20x100 feet, the facility is the First Garden Project of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Division of Youth Services.

D.K.K. Inc. president Hong Kyun Kim said his assistance to CNMI youths will not stop with the facility as he also wants to help in processing the produce from the greenhouse's garden sets.

Kim, a longtime businessman on Saipan, recently acquired a property in San Antonio where he wants to establish a food processing facility to help local farmers—and youth detainees at the center—market their produce.

According to DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao and DYS counselor Jackie Mendiola, an estimated seven to nine juveniles will directly benefit from the First Garden Project daily—from planting the seeds, to watering the plants, to harvesting the crops.

Lectures and other preparatory ses-

sions will also be conducted for the young farmers as part of the program.

The officials described the project as "a very tangible program" that will help rehabilitate detained youths so they could become productive citizens.

Faisao said the rehabilitation program will go a long way. "This is a project that will not only provide them life skills, but will boost their morale. This experience will make them competent and will bring positive mood in coming back to the community."

Mendiola said the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service, through food scientist Jang Ho Kim, along with the Division of Agriculture, provided the seeds for the project.

DCCA officials also lauded the support of the Neighborhood Watch Taskforce, which was represented by municipal council member R.B. Camacho and William Torres, in the launching of the project.

In a ceremony and visit to the site yesterday, guests were shown the project's garden sets and greenhouse.

Also in attendance was Division of Agriculture director George Moses, along with agriculturist Ben Borja, who lauded the pro-active approach of DYS in initiating the program.

## EMPLOYEES

From Page 1

Rep. Francisco Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said that, while the Filial administration should be commended for making sure government employees get their salaries for the July 2 payroll despite earlier pronouncements of a possible payless payday, he said the government cannot continue to keep its employees on the edge every time payroll nears.

"Employees cannot always be put in a situation where they have to fear not getting paid on time. The administration and the Legislature should have a plan of action by now," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

One of those who got her salary early said she's "happy" to be able to spend a long weekend with money to spend.

"Even if we didn't get our paychecks on time or even if we get it early next week, it would still be alright because we know the government is having financial problems. It's also lesson learned. Many government employees think that it's going to be okay all the time, they take things lightly," said the government employee.

The Executive Branch employee, along with many others, has been receiving a 10-hour work cut as part of cost-cutting measures by the Filial administration. But this austerity does not extend to the Legislature and the Judiciary.

"But I think it's better to have pay cuts and delayed salary than not getting any money or having no job at all in these hard times," the female employee said.

House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said he's "glad" that salaries were released on time.

"It would have been a different Fourth of July holiday for government employees and their families," he said.

The Filial administration expects that this July will bring in fresh cash to the general fund due to tax collections.

Acting Rota Mayor George Hocog, in a phone interview, said Rota government employees' checks arrived yesterday afternoon and were up for immediate distribution.

"We are happy, all the government employees here are happy that the payroll is on time. It would be a happier holiday weekend," he said.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said on Thursday that the Filial administration was able to reprogram funds from small activities even without multi-million reprogramming from the Commonwealth Development Authority, which has yet to remit \$2 million to the general fund as requested.

He also said that the Filial administration wishes everyone a happy Fourth of July holiday.

Finance initially secured some \$1.5 million for payroll, enough to cover the salaries of some 1,000 police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, doctors and nurses.

Another \$1.5 million was secured Thursday, allowing the release of payroll for all other government employees and officials yesterday.

On June 18, only police officers, firefighters, corrections officers, doctors and nurses got paid on time. The rest of the employees received their checks on June 21, marking the first time in CNMI history that the release of most government paychecks was delayed.

The Legislature gave the governor the authority to reprogram up to \$10 million to address the payroll.

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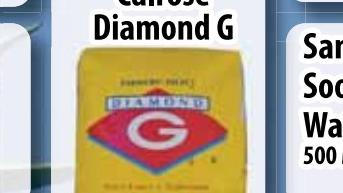


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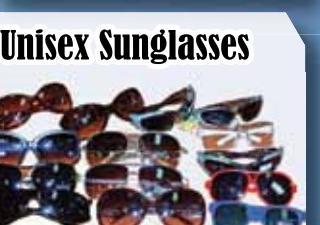
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# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

CNN'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 157

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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## EDITORIAL

### Civilian success in war on domestic terror

**B**efore Faisal Shahzad pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in New York, a U.S. marshal removed his handcuffs.

When Faisal Shahzad pleaded guilty last week to attempting to kill whoever happened to be near his car bomb in New York's Times Square, he did more than clear the case from a judicial docket. He vindicated the civilian approach to prosecuting the American war on terror.

Under President Barack Obama, domestic anti-terror responsibilities are correctly being shifted to law enforcement, leaving the military to focus on the incredibly difficult tasks of finishing up in Iraq, figuring out Afghanistan and planning for whatever might come next.

This is a step that will better protect American citizens from the threat of international terrorism. Policing terror suspects, following leads on small cells or individuals and tracking down those people or groups is a law enforcement task, not a military one.

The value of handling these extremely important cases in civilian courts has become very clear this year.

The Shahzad case, for instance, has moved toward conclusion not only rapidly but with positive results. In addition to being captured and put on trial (using solid police work), Shahzad has talked. A lot. He has helpfully provided investigators with both an insight into how terror organizations are operating in the United States and actionable information on the networks backing them overseas.

While pleading guilty, Shahzad told the court about his five days of training with the Taliban in Pakistan.

And Shahzad's case isn't unique. So-called underwear bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, whose bomb fizzled Christmas Day aboard a flight to Detroit, was providing "useful, actionable" information to the federal investigators soon after his arrest.

Together they make a compelling argument. Terrorists go about their business much the same way as many criminals. They work in the shadows, support themselves with money from drug sales, engage in the movement of illegal weapons and sneak across borders. Uncovering such acts, now and always, has been the specialty of law enforcement. Domestic terror cases are effectively dealt with in civilian courts.

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## Liberation and independence

**J**uly 4, 1946 is a significant day for two political units represented in the CNMI—Chamolinians and Filipinos. Historically, it was the day Chamolinian residents of Saipan were released from confinement at the Susupe stockades for non-combat personnel. Until this time, the POWs, Okinawans, Koreans, and Chamolinians were in separate barbed-wire confinement camps.

For Filipinos, July 4, 1946, culminated the Philippine Independence Act of 1934 when the U.S. Congress granted full sovereignty to the Philippines after a 10-year transition period, rudely interrupted by World War II. The 1946 Treaty of General Relations between the United States and the Philippines was executed granting the Independence of the Philippines from U.S. sovereign rule.

We offered our reflections on liberation and self-determination (*Saipan Tribune's* Opinion page, Monday, June 7). We mused over four terms used widely in U.S. lexicon: *liberation*, *emancipation*, *independence*, and *self-determination*. In our haste to shift from the historic day to an image of the "liberation process," we failed to follow our pedagogical method to always begin with the objective level of knowledge.

Happily, we have friends to remind us of our lapses. So as made clear above, Liberation Day for Saipan recollects the release from confinement of Chamolinians (this word was coined later) from the Susupe stockades.

However, as H. Willens and D. Siemer engaged our attention to the liberation process (my term, not theirs) attendant to the continuing journey of the NMI in their books, *National Security and Self-determination* and *An Honorable Accord*, and the continuing hankering of local politicos to adhere to the Covenant provisions and the choice made toward self-determination, it is clear that one can take a wider perspective over the meaning of liberation beyond Susupe Camp.

It was the Cold War that propelled these seemingly insignificant islands into the forefront of foreign relation maneuverings, especially when the USSR rep in the United Nations called on the United States to walk its talk in Micronesia, when Kennedy's high-minded word of caution on the growing influence of the USSR on the former colonial territories.

It was not exactly hunky-dory in the refugee stockades, either, nor the occupation of the islands in general. Leathernecks weathered fierce fighting in Guadalcanal and Tarawa and the advance toward Nippon was a "war without mercy" on both sides. Living conditions on Saipan were primitive, and occupying forces were not prepared for a large civilian population. The British policy of benign neglect (popularized in America by Moynihan's suggestion to Nixon about race relations) was operative.

This is most instructive in the case of the Philippines. U.S.-Philippine Islands relation was shaky from the beginning, and remained so in the only U.S. colonial experiment lasting more than three de-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



cades. Philippine independence was initially a movement from the Southern states for the country to divest of its "foreign" holding, since it competed with Southern agriculture. The first bill of 1932 was passed but vetoed by Roosevelt, then overridden by Congress, but refused by the Philippine Islands. A revised version of the bill acceptable to the Philippines was finally passed in 1934. It provided that no goods would be manufactured in the Philippines that would compete with U.S. products.

This Philippine Independence Act was affirmed in the July 4 Treaty. The provisions showed an unbalanced relationship. In 1935, the Repatriation Act turned Filipinos from territorial citizens to "aliens" in America. Although the Philippines was a U.S. territory and later a Commonwealth, Filipinos had no parity rights in the continental U.S. On the other hand, the Treaty required the retention of 23 American military bases for 99 years in the Philippines, and enshrined the parity right of U.S. citizen to access Philippine natural resource. This was like the "separate but equal" race policy in the U.S.; somewhat like pitting the NY Yankees against the Canlubang school yard baseball teams in the World Series. Or, in business, Wall Street vs. *Sari-sari Pinoy*; no parity relations here.

Adding insult to injury, Filipino war veterans specifically called to duty by the U.S. military under U.S. command in WWII were excluded full veterans benefits (the only group excluded by an Act of Congress), and Bush-Clinton-Bush-Obama tried to rectify this shameful Act as the few living veterans chew on their chompers way beyond their 90s.

Rhetoric decrying the U.S. for failing to live up to its promises under the Covenant, or its federal responsibilities within the purview of liberation, is misplaced. So is the perennial anti-U.S. rhetoric of Filipinos who see nothing beyond the dirty fingers of rabid capitalist exploiters. Liberation and independence are best understood from the actuations of those who have embodied their liberation and independence in their identity and vocation.

Self-critical Filipinos have this story to tell. "It was patriotic to steal from the Spanish, American, and Japanese governments, but the habit has become casual that we continue to steal from our own government." This July 4th, in Saipan's Liberation Day, and the Philippines' American-Filipino Friendship Day, it is well to look at our side of the ledger. The other side really does not care.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## The really big spill is our federal red ink

**P**ut this down on your calendar. Six months from now, we're either starting finally to control our federal debt or we're sending markets and creditors an awful signal.

No matter how bad the Gulf Coast looks now, December will be the year's most important month. That's when President Barack Obama is supposed to receive the report from the "debt commission" he largely appointed this year.

Ho-hum, you might think, but its task is to present a plan for reining in our \$13 trillion debt. The oil spill, our worst environmental disaster, eventually will get cleaned up, but there is no guarantee our debt will, if we don't start attacking it—now. It's a shame we need a commission to produce a plan that Congress should create, but there's little chance of that from the Democrats who run Capitol Hill. And even if they did, Republicans in their state of oppositional defiance-disorder probably would never agree to it. So it's time to let a panel suggest changes for both parties to approve or reject.

Rep. Jeb Hensarling, the Dallas Republican, sits on that commission, so I called him last week to see what's happening. He's one of the GOP's fiercest fiscal watchdogs, and he had both reassuring and worrisome things to say.

Interestingly, he gave Erskine Bowles, the commissioner's co-chair, good marks. Former GOP Sen. Alan Simpson is the other co-chair, but Bowles' role is critical, as since Democrats dominate the panel.

According to Hensarling, Bowles, Bill Clinton's former chief of staff, is "getting people focused on common facts and challenges." He's also getting the panel to consider "what fiscal responsibility looks like."

Of course, responsibility is in the eye of the beholder. So Hensarling's second point is equally important: "Progress and success are not the same thing."

Here's an example of the difference: The commission could present a five-year plan that balances revenues and spending but exempts interest payments on the debt, a big part of the budget.

I'm all in favor of half-loaves, but Hensarling is right to suggest we should not be duped into thinking that strategy is a touchdown. Interest payments now cost \$207 billion annually but are projected

## No adult left behind

**I** have had the pleasure of handing diplomas to some unusual people at commencement. Still, it was startling to see the child walk toward me. He was 9. He looked younger. He wasn't accepting the diploma for himself, of course. It was for his Dad, on active duty in Iraq. He'd sent his son, living on a base in Germany, to get it for him.

"Congratulations," I said. He and his Dad deserved it.

At University of Maryland University College, our graduates are America's adult learners. Almost all work full time. Half are parents. Their diplomas often reflect the work, sacrifice—and triumph—of an entire family.

These personal achievements, though, are the exception rather than the rule. They highlight a national problem. UMUC graduates often begin studying at the "unsung heroes" of higher education: America's community colleges. But each year, thousands of community college students who want to earn a bachelor's degree—particularly those from modest income or minority families—cannot continue. America's four-year colleges don't accommodate them.

This is not just a tragedy for them. It is a tragedy for our nation. Researchers estimate that baby-boomer retirements will soon leave our workforce 14-million shy of the number of four-year degree recipients we need.

What stands in the way? First, cost. Students paying about \$2,500 a year for community college tuition cannot always afford the \$7,000 average for public universities, much less the \$26,000 average for private institutions.

And there are other obstacles. Four-year colleges and universities often reject credits from transfer students. They schedule courses at challenging times for students who work. Sometimes they cannot even provide enough parking spaces for people rushing from work to class.

When it comes to higher education, we have made progress getting more people to the starting blocks. Yet these barriers keep too many from crossing the finish line.

How do we change? Once we understand that 65 percent of adults in this country do not have a college degree, it becomes obvious that our traditional public colleges and universities need to adapt. They must work with community colleges to remove obstacles and create pathways for these students to earn degrees that employers value. These partnerships should focus on three things.

First, community college students need more than courses. They need a plan, worked out when they start, that identifies the

By WILLIAM MCKENZIE

The Dallas Morning News

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to hit \$720 billion in 2020.

Here's another reason this approach isn't success. The Wall Street Journal reports that the International Monetary Fund uses this standard to assess "the world's poorest countries trying to get their fiscal houses in order."

We can call this approach progress, as Hensarling says. But the United States needs to do better than the world's poorest nations if we want a strong economy.

The commission instead should present a plan that truly puts the budget in balance. That will require ugly choices, but we can't keep up this pace, with public debt starting to consume a scary amount of our gross domestic product.

Changes once thought unthinkable must be considered: Spending cuts. Ending tax exemptions. Reforming entitlement programs.

The place to start is with Social Security. The stock market's recent collapse has taken private Social Security accounts off the table, but we still could change how benefits are calculated so they are linked to prices on a basket of goods instead of wage rates.

That idea surfaced when President George W. Bush tried to reform Social Security, and it could save a bunch. So could phasing in a higher age limit for receiving Social Security benefits.

No one expects this panel to have all the answers this far from the finish line. But, readers, this is our last best hope.

If the commission doesn't produce a realistic plan—one that involves spending, tax and entitlement changes—we will be on an out-of-control deepwater economic rig. I don't know about you, but one mega-disaster a year is enough for me.

By SUSAN C. ALDRIDGE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

*Susan C. Aldridge is president of the University of Maryland University College, 3501 University Blvd. East, Adelphi, Md. 20783.*



courses they must take to qualify to transfer to a four-year institution. These plans may include credit for on-the-job learning. They may include credit for more affordable courses taken elsewhere. But every credit these students earn must count toward a four-year degree.

Second, community college students need help paying tuition when they transfer to four-year institutions. Any student who maintains an average above 3.0 should qualify for a scholarship. Almost all scholarship students go on to earn a four-year degree. Perhaps companies whose employees are working for a four-year degree will contribute.

Third, many students need the flexibility of online courses if they are going to graduate while working. Yes, customary face-to-face classes are valuable to the university experience. But universities need to mix and match a variety of learning approaches so students can pick the ones that work best for them.

People who say that traditional methods work best should talk to Sarah English.

Talk about motivation. Sarah earned 26 college credits while her children were small and received a degree from Maryland's Montgomery (Community) College. But would those credits apply toward a four-year degree?

After researching her options, Sarah came to UMUC. We accepted all of her credits and awarded her a community college transfer scholarship. Her employer gave her tuition assistance.

"I got more than the scholarship," she says now. "I was at school part-time and work full-time. I needed flexibility. I got that, too."

Thousands of students are like Sarah. They want the education that modern technology makes possible. They need the boost to their earning power. And America's future depends on their success.

The Sarahs of the world do not need to change. We do. The goal of every university must be to leave no motivated adult behind.

## This July 4, pledge to become cyber secure

By TOM RIDGE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

*Tom Ridge is the president and CEO of Ridge Global. He was the first secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Before that, he was governor of Pennsylvania. Readers may write to him at Ridge Global, 1101 16th Street NW, Suite 308, Washington D.C. 20036; website: http://www.ridgeglobal.com.*



**A**s Independence Day approaches, we are reminded of the courage and strength of the Minute Men, citizens who were willing to take up arms, on a minute's notice, to defend their home and their families—a small band of volunteers that stood tall in the face of tyranny to protect the basic ideals of freedom and opportunity for all.

Today, Americans still fight to protect these ideals. However in the minds of most Americans, the battles we fight today are either in faraway lands or are in response to acts of terrorism at single points in time. In fact, most Americans feel relatively disengaged from the battles that are waged around the world. Despite the events of 9-11, many of us have a quiet confidence that we will never personally come face to face with our enemies or be the victim of terrorism. While on some level that may be true, we are wrong to assume we are not personally vulnerable and responsible for our own security, and specifically our personal cyber security.

The cyber threats we as Americans face today are complicated and complex. The geographic borders that once served to protect us do not exist in the digital world. Most of our citizens do not comprehend the fact that the geographic barriers that once gave us a personal sanctuary are no longer the primary source of protection. Those that wish to do us harm—whether as nations or cyber criminals—can digitally "invade" via the Internet. And many experts believe our next major attack could occur on the cyber battlefield.

Last summer, as most of us enjoyed our Fourth of July weekend, major systems within our government were attacked by a foreign threat. While we watched fireworks and celebrated our freedom, the other side of the world committed one of the most sophisticated, far reaching and brazen assaults on the U.S. cyber infrastructure. While the systems at the Pentagon and White House managed the attacks reasonably well, the systems at the Departments of Treasury and the Federal Trade Commission were brought to a complete standstill for days.

For most Americans, this cyber attack went largely unnoticed as events of this nature often do. Cyber warfare is not a fantasy and the impact of a well-executed assault could affect the lives of millions of Americans by hampering the services they rely upon each day.

Unfortunately, most Americans don't understand the simple role they can play to help strengthen their digital security.

Certainly, our government must continue with their sophisticated and collaborative efforts to secure cyber space. But at the same time, U.S. citizens must assume some level of personal responsibility for their home computer networks by securing their computer's connection to the Internet. They can't rely on the reputation of their operating systems' security or government systems to protect them from the enemies we face. More importantly, citizens should understand that their benign neglect of security could make them unwitting conspirators in large scale organized attacks.

Let us take a lesson from the Minute Men and rise to form an army of citizens committed to their own personal cyber security. Here's how you can do your part:

This Fourth of July, when you log on to check the scores of your favorite sports team and scan the news, take an extra minute to make sure that your computer is secure.

- Check to make sure that you have anti-virus, anti-spyware and firewall software. There are lots of options out there, and some very good ones that are free.
- Make sure your software is up to date and working properly.
- Reset your passwords on a regular basis.
- Commit to a schedule where you routinely evaluate the security of your digital equipment—your computers and all mobile devices.

These are simple steps and by taking those few extra minutes, you are doing your part to keep your personal information, your family and ultimately, your nation more secure.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 80
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 78
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88	▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 88	▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88	▼ 78
Majuro	Rain	▲ 84	▼ 78

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 58	▼ 51
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86	▼ 70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 86	▼ 75
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 84	▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75	▼ 59
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 92	▼ 78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59	▼ 42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88	▼ 80
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86	▼ 69
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 72
Paris	Thundershowers	▲ 81	▼ 61
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 76	▼ 70
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88	▼ 67
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 71	▼ 53
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 67	▼ 56
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 83	▼ 73
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 81	▼ 74
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 88	▼ 70

### Tides

Sunrise/Sunset		Moonrise/Moonset	
Today	5:51 AM	6:51 PM	Today
12:10 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet	11:17 PM
6:43 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.9 Feet	11:04 AM
11:33 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.4 Feet	Sunday
6:00 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.5 Feet	11:53 PM
			11:51 AM
			Monday
			12:39 AM
			Tuesday
			12:32 AM
			1:30 PM
			Wednesday
			1:14 AM
			2:24 PM

### GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHOT Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

#### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

#### POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 27, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN	OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM</				

## Schedule of Religious Services

### CATHOLIC

**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**  
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm  
Monday-Saturday: 6am  
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

**Korean Center**  
Sunday: 10:30am  
Wednesday: 10am  
Thursday-Friday: 8pm  
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

**Kristo Rai Parish**  
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am  
Monday-Saturday: 6am  
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm  
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

**Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish**  
Wednesday Mass: 6pm  
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm  
Saturday Mass: 6pm  
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

**Saint Jude Parish**  
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am  
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

**San Antonio Parish**  
Sunday: 6am and 8am  
Tuesday and Wednesday: 6pm

**San Francisco de Borja-Rota**  
Sunday: 6am and 8am  
Monday-Saturday: 6am  
Wednesday: 6pm

**San Isidro-Rota**  
Sunday: 5am and 10am  
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm  
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

**San Jose (Oleai) Parish**  
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am  
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

**San Roque Parish**  
Sunday: 9am  
Wednesday: 6pm  
Saturday: 10:30am

**San Vicente Parish**  
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm  
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

**Santa Remedios**  
Sunday: 7:30am  
Tuesday: 6pm  
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

**Santa Soledad**  
Sunday: 7:30am

### PROTESTANT

**Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan**  
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8:10-30pm  
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8:10-30pm  
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am  
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am  
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

**Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan**  
Sunday School: 9am  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am  
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm  
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

**Chinese Christian Church of Saipan**  
Worship Services:  
Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm  
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

**Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan**  
Worship/Study Opportunities  
Adult Sunday School: 9am  
Youth Sunday School: 9am  
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am  
Sunday Service: 5:30pm  
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30am  
Evangelism/Follow-up:  
Sunday/Monday: 1:30-7:30pm  
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;  
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm  
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm  
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm  
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm  
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

**Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan**  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am  
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,  
Call 235-0545 for directions

**Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan**  
Worship Service: 9am  
GFI Classes: 4:45pm  
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am  
Sunday: 7am  
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm  
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

**Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan**  
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)  
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)  
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)  
Sunday: 6:45am (English)  
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

**Immanuel United Methodist Church**  
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)  
Worship Service: 9:00am  
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am  
Choir Practice: 8:00am  
Singspiration: 8:30am  
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm  
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

**Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)**  
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**July 3, 2000**

#### Students participate in moot trial

Pre-law program 2000 students of the Northern Marianas College exhibited excellent potential as lawyers as they argued a case before the court last Friday in a moot trial designed to prepare them for the rigorous demands of law school. NMC professor Edward J. Bronson said he was proud at the way the students presented the case in front of CNMI's most distinguished panel of court judges and attorneys which included Atty. General Herb Soll, Asst. Atty. General Lucia Blanco-Maraita, and Asst. Public Defender Robert Torres, to name few. According to Prof. Bronson, the activity was devised to teach the students legal analysis, legal reasoning, and moral advocacy.

#### PIBBA conference concludes

Participants of the 19th Pacific Islands Bilingual Bicultural conference all agreed to further push for the preservation and strengthening of the indigenous language both in theory and practice as the annual meet officially ended Friday evening. CNMI PIBBA chapter president Jesus Elameto said that although island entities are continually striving to make their first languages prevail in times of crucial national conflicts, it confronts a long process before the rest of the Pacific adheres to this agenda. PIBBA members praised the bilingual leadership of the Marshall Islands for succeeding in making the Marshallese language prevail over English, as is the case in most Pacific island nations. During its Constitutional Convention last year, the Marshalls implemented a policy which has placed the Marshallese language above any other language utilized in its islands.

**July 3, 2001**

#### Higher budget required for separate vocational school

Around \$300,000 will be needed to startup a new vocational training institute under the Northern Marianas College, which is lower than the amount required by plans to remove the program from the college. The funding estimate was made by NMC Director of Vocational Technical Education Dr. Jack Angello, who earlier countered a house legislative initiative aiming to privatize the program. Rep. Antonio Camacho, the initiative's proponent, has asked Angello to submit recommendations that will strengthen vocational education at the college amid claims that it has failed to address the islands' training needs.

#### DOF clears road for Marpi landfill

The government yesterday junked the protest of a joint venture bidder for the construction of the Marpi Solid Waste Facility, spoiling the consortium's last ditch-effort to get the multi-million dollar contract. The Department of Finance already notified the public auditor that it has decided to award the contract to joint venture of Dick Pacific Corporation and Pacific Drilling Ltd. despite the pendency of the protest filed by the next highest bidder. The bid of Western Equipment, Inc. and DRC Pacific Inc. is just \$300,000 more than that of the front-runner, having a contract price of approximately \$10 million. DOF Procurement and Supply director Herman S. Sablan said the Attorney General's Office already concurred with the department's determination to proceed with the award of the contract.

**July 3, 2002**

#### Heinz: \$213-M budget doubtful

With the government itself predicting current revenue collections to hit \$193.4 million, there is no reason to expect the adoption in toto of the Babauta administration's \$213-million budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2003. House Speaker Heinz S. Hofsneider stressed this point, even as he pointed out that, if one were to use the revenue collection trend for the last eight months, the actual collections could be predicted to reach \$182.7 million only. This comes soon after acting Gov. Diego T. Benavente wrote to the 13th Legislature, recommending no changes in the administration's spending plan for the next fiscal year. In his letter, he had projected a \$2 million decline in the poker license revenue but, to make up for this, he proposed the passage of a measure increasing the jackpot tax from 10 to 20 percent.

## Business

# Concerns rising that ECONOMIC RECOVERY is slowing

WASHINGTON (AP)—Concerns are rising that the economic rebound is stalling, but a strong jobs report on Friday would go a long way towards assuaging those fears.

Conversely, a report showing private employers failed to create many jobs in June will amplify worries that the recovery is weakening and won't be strong enough to put many of the 15 million unemployed back to work anytime soon.

"The economy is losing some momentum," said Ryan Sweet, senior economist at Moody's Economy.com. "We need to see private hiring really accelerate."

Analysts forecast that employers cut a net total of 110,000 jobs in June, which would be the nation's first loss of jobs in six months. But that figure includes the expected end of about 240,000 temporary census jobs.

Economists will focus more on private employers, who are forecast to have added 112,000 positions. That would be the sixth-straight month of gains and an improvement from a weak showing of 41,000 in May.

But the unemployment rate is forecast to tick up to 9.8 percent from 9.7 percent. The report will be released Friday at 8:30 a.m.

A gain of 112,000 in private payrolls would signal the recovery is on track, economists said. With added jobs boosting incomes and giving consum-

## Schwarzenegger orders min wage for state workers

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** (AP)—Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Thursday ordered about 200,000 state workers to be paid the federal minimum wage this month because the state Legislature has not passed a budget, but the state controller is refusing to comply.

Department of Personnel Administration Director Debbie Endsley sent the order in a letter to the state controller, who refused a similar order two years ago. The matter is tied up in the appellate courts, leading the controller to say he will abide by whatever final ruling emerges, which could be years down the road. He said he can't follow the order now due to technical and legal issues.

Most state employees will be paid the federal minimum of \$7.25 per hour for the July pay period.

Schwarzenegger spokesman Aaron McLean said the change

should be reflected in state employees' next paycheck. Workers will be paid in full retroactively once a budget is passed.

"It's a sad day when the boss wants to make his employees collateral damage in a budget dispute," said Patty Velez, an environmental scientist and president of the California Association of Professional Scientists, a union that would be affected by the cuts.

The Republican governor has been frustrated by the Legislature's failure to close California's \$19 billion budget deficit, even as the new fiscal year began Thursday.

Schwarzenegger's order does not affect the 37,000 workers, including California Highway Patrol officers, who are in unions that recently negotiated new contracts with the administration. Those contracts included pay cuts and pension reforms that will save the state money.

# Nation

## Obama says politics to blame for immigration delay

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Hoping to breathe new life into the stalled immigration effort, President Barack Obama on Thursday blamed the delay on recalcitrant Republicans whom he said had given in to the “pressures of partisanship and election-year politics.”

Republicans responded that Obama’s first step going forward must be to secure the border.

In his first immigration speech, Obama took Republicans to task, in particular 11 GOP senators who had backed attempts during the previous Republican administration to tighten the immigration system. He did not call out anyone by name.

Obama dismissed the focus on a “border security first” approach, saying the system is too big to be fixed “only with fences and border patrols.” He advocated a comprehensive approach that would call on the government, businesses and illegal immigrants themselves to live up to their responsibilities.

Obama also wants to create a pathway to citizenship for the estimated 11 million illegal immigrants in the U.S.; critics call it amnesty. But Obama said the immigrants must first acknowledge that they broke the law, pay fines and back taxes, perform community service and learn English.

Without setting a timeline, Obama questioned whether the political will exists to get a bill through Congress.

“Reform that brings accountability to our immigration system cannot pass without Republican votes,” he said. “That is the political and mathematical reality.” In the



President Barack Obama gestures while speaking about immigration reform, Thursday, July 1, 2010, at American University in Washington. AP

ties within the law.

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help from foreign countries and international organizations.

The Coast Guard said there have been 107 offers of help from 44 nations, ranging from technical advice to skimmer boats and booms. But many of those offers are weeks old, and only a small number have been accepted, with the vast majority still under review, according to a list kept by the State Department.

Daley announced his ordinance at a park on the city’s South Side three days after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Americans have a right to own a gun for self-defense anywhere they live. The City Council is expected to vote on it Friday.

Senate, Democrats fall short of the 60 votes needed to overcome GOP delaying tactics.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Obama would get the bipartisan support he wants “if he would take amnesty off the table and make a real commitment to border and interior security.” Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., who is in a tight re-election race and could benefit politically from enacting a broad overhaul, said he was committed to passing a bill this year.

Many immigrant advocates

praised the president’s comments. They had been pressuring him for some time to give such as a speech—although it broke no new ground—as a demonstration of his commitment to an issue he promised would be a priority his first year in office.

But an organization of Hispanic conservatives criticized the speech as a “sheer political move” to keep them on board for the November elections. Obama was elected with strong backing from Hispanics and they could tip the balance in several tight races this year.

### Mayor Daley lays out strict gun rules for Chicago

**CHICAGO** (AP)—With the city’s gun ban certain to be overturned, Mayor Richard Daley on Thursday introduced what city officials say is the strictest handgun ordinance in the United States.

The measure, which draws from ordinances around the country, would ban gun shops in Chicago and prohibit gun owners from stepping outside their homes, even onto their porches or garages, with a handgun.

Daley announced his ordinance at a park on the city’s South Side three days after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Americans have a right to own a gun for self-defense anywhere they live. The City Council is expected to vote on it Friday.

“As long as I’m mayor, we will never give up or give in to gun violence that continues to threaten every part of our nation, including Chicago,” said Daley, who was flanked by activists, city officials and the parents of a teenager whose son was shot and killed on a city bus while shielding a friend.

The ordinance, which Daley urged the City Council to pass, also would:

- Limit the number of handguns residents can register to one per month and prohibit residents from having more than one handgun in operating order

## Volunteers ready but left out of oil spill cleanup

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—Many fishing boats signed up to skim oil sit idle in marinas. Some captains and deckhands say they have been just waiting around for instructions while drawing checks from BP of more than \$1,000 a day per vessel. Thousands of offers to clean beaches and wetlands have gone unanswered.

BP and the Obama administration faced mounting com-

plaints Thursday that they are ignoring foreign offers of badly needed equipment and making poor use of the fishing boats and volunteers available to help clean up what may now be the biggest spill ever in the Gulf of Mexico.

Based on some government estimates, more than 140 million gallons of crude have now spewed from the bottom of the sea since the April 20 explo-

sion that killed 11 workers on the Deepwater Horizon oil platform, eclipsing the 1979-80 disaster off Mexico that had long stood as the worst in the Gulf.

In recent days and weeks, for reasons BP has never explained, many fishing boats hired for the cleanup have done a lot of waiting around. At the same time, there is mounting frustration over the time it has taken the government to approve offers of

help from foreign countries and international organizations.

The Coast Guard said there have been 107 offers of help from 44 nations, ranging from technical advice to skimmer boats and booms. But many of those offers are weeks old, and only a small number have been accepted, with the vast majority still under review, according to a list kept by the State Department.

## Prosecutors: US network ready to aid spy ring

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A prosecutor warned Thursday that a powerful and sophisticated network of U.S.-based Russian agents were eager to help defendants in an alleged spy ring flee the country on bail. U.S. authorities also said one defendant confessed that he worked for Russia’s intelligence service and others had large amounts of cash.

Ellis ruled that two defendants, Cynthia and Richard Murphy, should remain in custody because there was no other way to guarantee they would not flee since it was unclear who they were. But he set bail of \$250,000 for prominent Spanish-language journalist Vicky Pelaez, a U.S. citizen born in Peru, saying she did not appear to be trained as a spy. The judge required electronic monitoring and home detention

and said she would not be freed before Tuesday, giving prosecutors time to appeal.

Ellis ruled after Farbiarz said the evidence against the defendants continued to mount and the case was solid.

“Judge, this is a case where the evidence is extraordinarily strong. Prosecutors don’t get cases like this very often,” he said.

The ordinance, which Daley urged the City Council to pass, also would:

- Limit the number of handguns residents can register to one per month and prohibit residents from having more than one handgun in operating order

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Lawmakers pass \$20M settlement for kidnapped girl

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.** (AP)—California lawmakers approved a \$20 million settlement Thursday with the family of Jaycee Dugard, who was kidnapped as a girl and held captive in a secret backyard for 18 years by a paroled sex offender. Dugard, 30, resurfaced last August with two daughters she bore with Phillip Garrido, a convicted rapist. Dugard and her daughters, ages 15 and 12, filed claims in

February, saying state officials with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation failed to do their jobs. Parole agents began supervising Garrido in 1999 but didn’t discover Dugard. The Dugard family members claimed psychological, physical and emotional damages. “I can’t emphasize enough that we’ve got to be much more prudent in terms of how we provide oversight for released prisoners in the state of California,” Assemblyman Ted Gaines, R-Granite Bay, said.

#### Texas executes killer of Houston-area nurse

**HUNTSVILLE, Texas** (AP)—Convicted killer Michael James Perry was executed Thursday evening for gunning down a nurse at her suburban Houston home nine years ago and stealing her car. Perry, 28, mouthed to relatives and friends watching through a window that he loved them. “I want to start off to everyone involved in this atrocity, they’re all forgiven by me,” he said in a brief statement from

the death chamber gurney. He lifted his head from the pillow and his voice cracking, cried out: “Mom, I love you.” “I’m coming home Dad. I’m coming home,” he added. His father died last month. He never acknowledged relatives of his victim who looked through an adjacent window. As the drugs took effect, his eyes fluttered and he hiccupped four times. A single tear ran down his right cheek, prompting quiet sobs from his mother and an aunt and friends. The victim’s relatives gasped

and motioned to each other.

#### Organizers: Wash. legal pot measure won’t qualify

**SEATTLE** (AP)—An initiative to legalize marijuana for adults in Washington state will not qualify for the fall ballot, an organizer said Thursday. Seattle medical marijuana attorney Douglas Hiatt told The Associated Press that the effort fell about 40,000 to 50,000 signatures short of the 241,000 that must be turned in by Friday. Hiatt said

his group, Sensible Washington, will try again next year. Initiative 1068 would have removed all state penalties for marijuana possession, cultivation, use and sale. It was one of the most sweeping marijuana reform efforts playing out around the country this year. It was prompted in part by Hiatt’s frustration at seeing medical marijuana patients arrested in the state. Proponents also argued that in a time of severe budget woes, it would save the state millions of dollars a year in state law enforcement and prison costs.

# Asia

## 37 people killed in bomb blasts at Pakistan shrine

**LAHORE, Pakistan** (AP)—Two suicide bombers struck a popular Muslim shrine in Pakistan's second largest city, killing 37 people and wounding 180 in the second major attack in Lahore in a month.

The bombers attacked late Thursday as thousands of people visited the Data Darbar shrine, where a famous Sufi saint is buried. Lahore has experienced a growing number of attacks as Taliban fighters along the northwest border with Afghanistan have teamed up with militant groups once supported by the government in the country's heartland.

Security video showed the blasts scattering terrified worshippers as white plumes of smoke blanketed the area.

The first bomber detonated his explosives in a large underground room where visitors sleep and wash themselves



Family members of victims comfort each other after suicide bombers attacked a popular Muslim shrine in the Pakistan city of Lahore late Thursday night July 1, 2010, killing more than 30 people and wounding 175 others, the city's top official said.

before praying, said Khusro Pervez, the top government official in Lahore. The attack occurred as volunteers handed out food to people visiting the shrine, said Chaudary Mohammed Shafiq, a senior

police official. Minutes later, a second bomber detonated his explosives upstairs in a large courtyard in front of the shrine as people tried to flee the first attack, said Pervez.

## China installs 40,000 security cameras in Urumqi

**BEIJING** (AP)—China has installed about 40,000 high-definition surveillance cameras in the western region of Xinjiang days before the one-year anniversary of the country's worst ethnic violence in decades.

The security cameras with "riot-proof" protective shells will be monitored by police at more than 4,000 public locations, including on city streets and buses and in schools and shopping malls, city government spokesman Ma Xinchun said Friday.

Long-simmering tensions between Xinjiang's minority Uighurs and majority Han Chinese migrants turned into open violence in the streets of Urumqi—the capital of the traditionally Muslim region—last July 5.

The government says 197 people were killed. Beijing blamed overseas Uighur (pronounced WEE-gur) groups of plotting the violence, but exile groups denied it.

The installation of thousands of surveillance cameras follows a crackdown on violent crime

launched there last month, as well as the hiring of about 5,000 new police officers in Xinjiang.

Beijing labels those opposing Chinese authority over Xinjiang as terrorists. Late last month it announced it uncovered a gang of "hard-core terrorists" who it said had plotted attacks in southern Xinjiang cities between July and October last year. Public Security Ministry spokesman Wu Heping took no questions from reporters and his assertions could not be independently verified.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Afghan governor: Suicide attackers strike Kunduz

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—A provincial governor says insurgents have stormed a building used by a firm working for USAID in northern Afghanistan. Kunduz governor Mohammad Omar said two suicide bombers blew themselves up and two others entered the compound in Kunduz city Friday. At least one Afghan policeman was killed. Another was wounded along with three guards protecting the compound used by Development Alternatives Inc. The global firm provides social and economic development assistance in developing countries. Separately, NATO said a U.S. service member died Friday in an insurgent attack in eastern Afghanistan.

#### Nepal's Maoists search for coalition partners

**KATMANDU, Nepal** (AP)—

Nepal's communist former rebels reached out to other political parties Thursday to form a new coalition government, a day after the prime minister resigned following months of sometimes-violent protests. "We want to end the political deadlock as soon as possible and will be talking to other parties to reach an agreement," said Baburam Bhattarai, deputy leader of the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoists). The party said it established a three-member committee headed by its leader, Pushpa Kamal Dahal, to negotiate with other political parties on the formation of a new government. The other main parties have agreed to hold talks, but it was unclear whether they would be interested in a Maoist-led government.

#### Taiwan president defends China trade agreement

**TAIPEI, Taiwan** (AP)—Taiwan's president Thursday de-

fended his landmark trade deal with China against claims that it would lead to a Beijing takeover, as the opposition girded for elections that could determine the fate of the ambitious China opening. The Economic Framework and Cooperation Agreement, signed Tuesday in the Chinese city of Chongqing, is the most significant step to date in Ma's signature program of improving relations with Beijing. It promises greater economic convergence between the once-bitter foes and raises prospects for closer political bonds across the 100-mile-(160-kilometer)-wide Taiwan Strait, long a regional flash point. While lauded by both Beijing and Washington—like Ma, they see the agreement as dampening the chances for conflict across the narrow waterway—Taiwan's pro-independence opposition has blasted it as part of a Chinese effort to bring the island back under its control 60 years after they split amid civil war.

# World

## 21 killed in Mexican gang shootout near US border

### HERMOSILLO, Mexico

(AP)—A massive gun battle between rival drug and migrant trafficking gangs near the U.S. border Thursday left 21 people dead and at least six others wounded, prosecutors said.

The fire fight occurred in a sparsely populated area about 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the Arizona border, near the city of Nogales, that is considered a prime corridor for immigrant and drug smuggling.

The Sonora state Attorney General's Office said in a statement that nine people were captured by police at the scene of the



shootings, six of whom had been wounded in the confrontation. Eight vehicles and seven weapons were also seized.

All of the victims were believed to be members of the gangs.

The shootings occurred near a

### Remnants of Alex drench northern Mexico, 2 die

#### MATAMOROS, Mexico

(AP)—The sprawling remains of Hurricane Alex drenched much of northern Mexico on Thursday, paralyzing the major city of Monterrey. At least two people were killed when dry rivers roared to life and highways turned into rushing streams.

Hurricane Alex ripped off roofs, caused severe flooding and forced thousands of people

to flee coastal fishing villages as it hit land Wednesday evening in the border state of Tamaulipas. Power and telephone service were down in several towns and cities.

The storm weakened to a tropical storm Thursday as it moved west to Nuevo Leon state, but it still caused major problems.

The dry Santa Catalina river

### Palestinian leader gives interview to Israel media

#### JERUSALEM

(AP)—The Palestinian president made a fresh bid to win over public opinion in Israel by giving a rare interview to Israeli journalists in which he cast himself as a serious partner for peace talks.

The interview, reported in major Israeli newspapers on Thursday, came as Washington

ton's special Mideast envoy, George Mitchell, was visiting the region trying to find enough common ground between the two sides to allow direct talks to resume.

Also Thursday, Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, announced he has accepted a German mediator's proposal

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Cyprus hunts for alleged Russian spy paymaster

**NICOSIA, Cyprus** (AP)—Russian money and influence have long made a splash on this Mediterranean resort island where a suspected spy paymaster vanished after being allowed to walk free on bail. The ties go right to the top: Russian energy giant Lukoil has a big presence, and the Greek Cypriot president, a communist who studied in Moscow, is expecting an illustrious visitor in October—Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. Embarrassed authorities searched airports, ports and yacht marinas Thursday for the suspect, identified as Christopher Robert Metsos. Freed on \$33,000 (euro27,000) bail, he failed to show for a required meeting with police on Wednesday. There's no evidence for now that the deep Russian presence in Cyprus played a role in his release, but the Cypriot government is under pressure to explain the bewildering fumble

involving a man wanted in the United States for allegedly operating a Russian spy ring there.

#### Iran leader to visit Nigeria as it takes UN post

**LAGOS, Nigeria** (AP)—Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad will visit Nigeria this weekend as the West African nation assumes the rotating presidency of the United Nations' security council, an Iranian diplomat said Thursday. Ahmadinejad's visit to Nigeria comes after the leader made similar visits to Uganda and Zimbabwe in April, as the pariah Middle Eastern nation tries to build alliances against stronger U.N. sanctions over its nuclear program. Khosrow Rezazadeh, Iran's ambassador to Nigeria, on Thursday confirmed Ahmadinejad's planned visit, but declined to offer further details. Nigeria's foreign ministry also declined to tell reporters about Ahmadinejad's plans, though his arrival comes as Nigeria's capital, Abuja, is scheduled to

dirt road between the hamlets of Tubutama and Saric, in an area often used by traffickers.

Gangs often fight for control of trafficking routes and sometimes steal "shipments" of undocumented migrants from each other, but seldom have they staged such mass gun battles.

Gang violence near the Arizona border has led to calls from officials in the U.S. state for greater control of the border and is one reason given for a controversial law passed in April requiring Arizona police to ask people about their immigration status in certain situations.

that cuts through Monterrey roared to life, sweeping away cars and parts of rickety, wooden homes built along its path.

One man died when he was caught by a torrent of water along a six-lane highway, city Civil Protection director Pedro Trevino told Televisa Monterrey network. Another man was found drowned by side of a creek.

to release 1,000 Palestinian prisoners in exchange for a captive Israeli soldier held by Hamas militants in Gaza for four years. But he said the most dangerous prisoners would not be allowed to return to their homes and "mass murderers" would not be freed.

host a conference for a group of developing countries known as the D-8.

#### American tourist shot and wounded in South Africa

**JOHANNESBURG** (AP)—A 35-year-old American was shot and robbed while walking to his hotel but his life is not in danger, a police spokeswoman said Thursday. The victim, identified as David James Bueche, was assaulted by four men as he was looking for his accommodation in Johannesburg's affluent Sandton area late Wednesday, Brig. Sally De Beers said. Following the assault, Bueche entered a house and the occupants called paramedics. They discovered he had a gunshot wound, De Beers said. The victim had complained of chest pain, but was not aware of the wound, she said. Bueche's condition is stable but he will remain hospitalized for up to 10 days, said Mande Toubkin, a spokeswoman for Netcare Sunninghill Hospital.

# Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, July 3, 2010

## UFO hard at work on 4th of July LibDay float

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**L**iberation Day preparations are well under way for the United Filipino Organization, according to its president, Olive Yana.

The UFO will have a marching unit and a float entry for tomorrow's 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

The floats should stick to this year's theme, "Celebrating Youth, Our Leaders of Tomorrow."

Yana told *Saipan Tribune* that as of

press time yesterday, the group has already finished the main structure of the float.

The remaining task, which is the decoration part, will be finished by UFO members today.

The float will transport about 10 to 20 kids of UFO members during the Liberation Day parade.

According to Yana, the group is enjoying the task at hand as it builds camaraderie among its members.

She said that Labor attaché Carmelina R. Velasquez and Rey Tayag of the Philippine Overseas Labor Office

also came by to bring some snacks for the members who are working on the float.

Yana said that for this year, they decided not to get Liberation Day shirts printed for members who will be part of the UFO marching unit for the parade.

Instead, the parade participants will be using their Philippine Independence Day shirts from the 2010 Pistang Pinoy celebration last June 13.

Yana added that their organization did not fall short on their estimated budget of between \$1,000 and \$2,000.

## POLO to offer fruit carving, dressmaking, financial literacy and computer courses

Filipino workers on Saipan will again have a chance to gain new knowledge and skills.

The Philippine Consulate General's Office and the Philippine Overseas Labor Office will be offering educational courses for the third quarter of 2010.

Registration is now open for those interested to learn about Basic Fruit Carving, Dressmaking, Financial Literacy, and Basic Computer Operations II.

The Basic Fruit Carving course is a one-day course that can accommo-

date a maximum of 40 students. Eduardo "Dragon Edong" Elenzano will be teaching the students from 8am to noon on July 10.

Marjorie Detino will be handling three sessions of the Dressmaking course. Class schedule is 2pm to 5pm from July 10 to 31. This course can accept 30 students.

Labor attaché Carl Velasquez, Remily Oca and Cora Tolosa will supervise the Financial Literacy course, which will have nine sessions. Only 30 students will be accepted to this course,

which will be conducted from 9am to noon, from July 31 to Sept. 25.

The Basic Computer Operations II course will be run by Jousel Regilme. Forty students will have to attend eight sessions, which are scheduled from Aug. 7 to Sept. 25 at 2:30pm to 5:30pm.

Slots are available for these courses on a first-come-first-served basis. Interested parties should present their umbrella or work entry permit and passport.

For inquiries, contact POLO office at 235-6992 or 235-3411. (*Clarissa V. David*)

## Filipinos celebrate Liberation Day with CNMI community

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

On July 4, Filipinos in the CNMI will join in the annual Liberation Day festivities celebrating the history and traditions of the most powerful nation on earth.

The monthlong Liberation Day celebration on Saipan kicks off with the opening of the Liberation Day carnival and culminates with the long-established Liberation Day parade participated by various organizations in the community.

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig expressed his congratulatory remarks to the people of the CNMI on their national holiday.

"On this day, all Filipinos in this Commonwealth join the peace-loving citizens and residents of the CNMI to remember with profound respect those who perished during the Second World War and those who experienced extreme hardships because of the ravages of war," he said.

Macaraig added that "the tragedy of

those days is a lesson for all time that never again should the untold sufferings of war be experienced by anyone."

Macaraig, who was invited to the Liberation Day celebration tomorrow, will be in Manila to meet with Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo to get new instructions and attend to personal matters.

He will be represented at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration by Welfare Officer Rey Tayag.

Philippine Labor attaché Carl Velasquez said the Liberation Day celebration is a chance for Filipinos to show that they are part of the CNMI community.

"It should not only be in time of war that we think of the importance of bravery, courage and loyalty to our country. The spirit of freedom and desire for peace must always be in our minds and hearts," she said.

Velasquez added that Filipinos join in "honoring and remembering people who dedicated their lives to achieve freedom which we Filipinos on Saipan are also enjoying today."



Members of the Saipan Marianas Lions Club formally turn over to Division of Parks and Recreation acting director Linda Crisostomo the newly rehabilitated basketball court at Civic Center in Susupe.

## Lions Club restores Civic Center basketball court

As part of their community service, the Saipan Marianas Lions Club recently rehabilitated the Civic Center basketball court in Susupe.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was done on June 12, the Philippine Independence Day. The basketball court

was formally turned over to Linda Crisostomo, acting director of the Division of Parks and Recreation at the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Funded by the FILCOM Foundation, the rehabilitation project was done during the term of former Saipan Marianas Lions Club president Rudy Santos.

According to Santos, the project aimed to provide a decent basketball court that the CNMI youth can use.

The project also encourages the youth to get involved with the sport instead of harmful activities.

Santos, who stepped down as president of the club last June 30, said the project took a week to finish.

Established in 1999, the Saipan Marianas Lions Club lives by the "We Serve" motto. It is involved with various civic-oriented activities such as beach cleanups and tree planting. (*Clarissa V. David*)

## Consulate sees smooth transition to ePassports

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Florante Picones woke up early in the morning of June 27, a Sunday, and headed straight to the Philippine Consulate General at the Marianas Business Plaza to renew his Philippine passport.

Picones' passport does not expire until January 2011 but he decided to renew it anyway.

Picones is among Filipinos who went to the Consulate that day to avail of the one-Sunday-a-month consular services and to obtain their ePassport, which was launched Sunday.

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig said a total of 89 e-passport applications have been received by the Consulate since its implementation on June 27.

The ePassport is the newest Philip-

pine passport and contains security features that were not in the Machine Readable-Ready Passports (green passports) nor the Machine Readable Passports (maroon passports).

Application fee for an ePassport is \$60.

The ePassport, which aims to lessen the inconveniences caused by the old passports, complies with the highest security standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO.

Macaraig told *Saipan Tribune* that the Consulate did not have any problems with the process, adding that the project saw a "smooth implementation."

Applicants will have to undergo biometrics, wherein the Consulate would take the applicant's photograph, thumbmarks, and signature.

Processing of ePassport applications take about four to six weeks.



CLARISSA DAVID  
An employee at the Philippine Consulate office assists a passport renewal applicant in having his biometrics information taken, including photo and thumbmarks.

EXCHANGE RATES	DOLLAR	PESO
\$1.00	= P46.4	

# Graft raps filed vs Arroyo; NBN-ZTE deal returns to haunt her

By JEROME ANING  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Saying the scandal is already “well-documented” in the Senate, the complainants see no need to wait for a truth commission.

A day after she stepped out of Malacañang, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo got hit by a ton of bricks, in the Department of Justice.

The former president, who is now a congresswoman of Pampanga, was the subject of a 12-page complaint filed by representatives of the party-list group Bayan Muna Thursday at the DoJ in connection with the aborted \$329-million NBN-ZTE deal during her term.

Asked why they filed the case at the DoJ and not the Ombudsman, Rep. Teodoro Casiño replied, “We want the DoJ to do the case buildup. What we don’t want to happen is to give everything to the Ombudsman because basically, we don’t have faith anymore in the Ombudsman, that we could get justice there.”

Casiño was referring to the Ombudsman’s decision last August not to include Arroyo in the case because she then enjoyed presidential immunity. Only Social Security System president Romulo Neri and resigned Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. were charged by the Ombudsman.

The complaint filed by Casiño and fellow Bayan Muna Rep. Neri Javier Colmenares said Arroyo violated Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act of 1960, RA 6713 or the 1989 Code of Conduct and Ethical

Standards for Public Officials and Employees, RA 9184 or the Government Procurement Act of 2003, and provisions of the Revised Penal Code such as those pertaining to qualified bribery and obstruction of justice.

## Leave no stones unturned

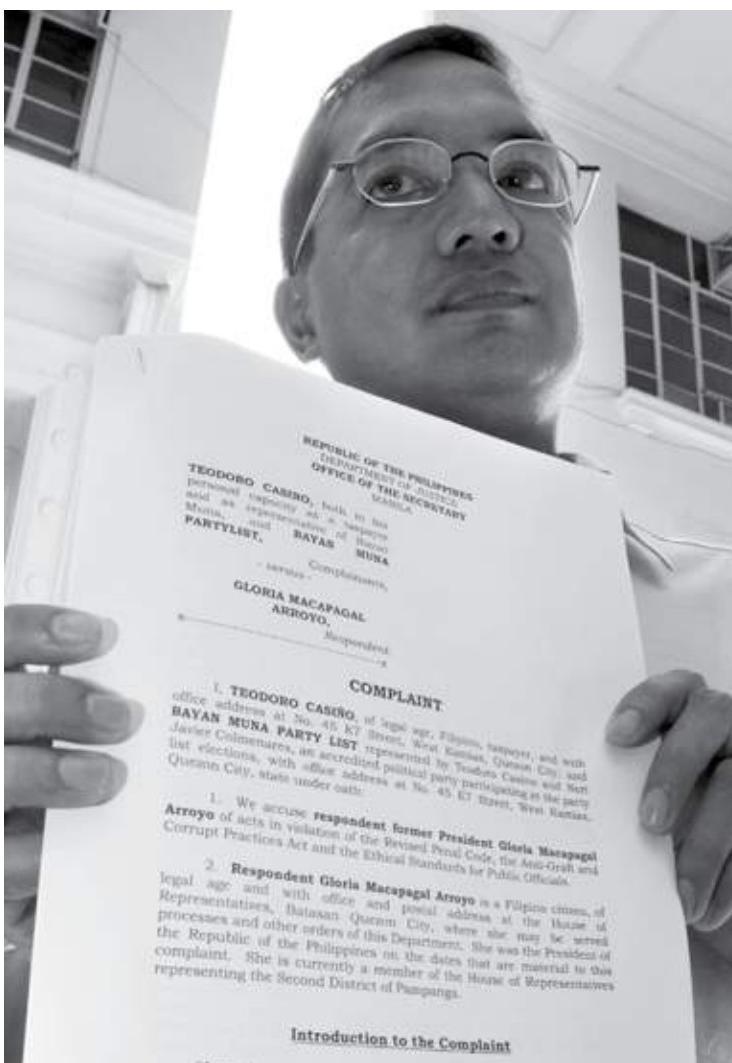
Casiño said it would be up to the DoJ to endorse the case to the Ombudsman, which in turn would decide if it should go to the Sandiganbayan. Colmenares said the DoJ and the Ombudsman have an agreement on this procedure.

“We believe that the DoJ’s extensive investigative powers can be harnessed to ensure an impartial and thoroughgoing investigation, leaving no stones unturned, in order for a successful prosecution to be pursued,” Casiño said.

The two lawmakers said they disagreed with the Ombudsman’s theory that Arroyo had absolute immunity when she was president. They said Arroyo’s immunity did not extend to the acts not related to her official functions as president. If she were immune from lawsuit, they added, then she is “certainly” not immune from investigation.

“The dismissal of the criminal complaint against Arroyo by the Ombudsman on the ground of immunity shows the lack of intention to seriously investigate her and was without legal basis,” the two said in their complaint.

Their accusations against Arroyo were culled mainly from the report of the Senate



AP  
Party list Representative Teodoro Casiño shows a copy of their complaint against former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on corruption charges a day after she stepped down from office Thursday, July 1, 2010, at the Department of Justice in Manila, Philippines.

investigation into the National Broadband Network (NBN) project with China’s ZTE Corp. to wire the country’s bureaucracy electronically.

## Litany of alleged crimes

Casiño and Colmenares said Arroyo violated Section 3 of RA 3019 when she:

■ Ordered or at the very least induced Neri and other public officials to approve the ZTE contract despite the circumstances of bribery and other irregularities affecting it.

■ Received material benefits from the ZTE contract when she played golf at the ZTE headquarters and other material

consideration.

■ Was very partial to the ZTE as shown by the grant of privileges to it, the invitation of ZTE officials to attend a Cabinet meeting, among others.

■ Neglected to investigate the irregularities involved in the ZTE contract and even pursued it so it may be consummated.

■ Executed the ZTE contract despite knowledge that overpricing and irregularities attended it.

■ Had interest for personal gain in the NBN contract since she caused its approval and awarding to ZTE despite the controversies.

Arroyo, the lawmakers said, was also liable for violations of the penal code:

■ Article 211-A, for qualified bribery, when she refrained from arresting or prosecuting all those involved in corrupt acts in connection with the NBN project in exchange for some offer, promise or gift;

■ Article 212, for corruption of public officials.

■ Article 213, for entering into the ZTE contract to “defraud” the Philippine government.

■ Article 216, for possession of prohibited interest by public officers, for allegedly entering into the contract despite her and her husband’s material interests therein.

## No need for commission

The two lawmakers said the case should also be considered administrative in nature so she could be suspended as lawmaker and even have her retirement pay withheld.

They added that the DoJ should also determine the liability, if any, of other people

involved in the contract, such as former First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, former Executive Secretary Leandro Mendoza, Department of Transportation and Communications officials and ZTE executives.

Casiño said he and Colmenares would not wait for President Benigno Aquino III’s formal creation of a truth commission to be headed by former Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. to investigate the anomalies of the Arroyo administration.

“The NBN-ZTE case is well-documented and there are lots of testimonies. It doesn’t need to wait for the truth commission, which should focus on things such as extrajudicial killings and other human rights violations,” he said.

“This will be a test case, the first of many steps to the filing of plunder against Arroyo after we consolidated all other complaints such as the fertilizer fund scam, Hello Garci scandal, the PhilHealth cards vote-buying spree and the Venable contract,” Casiño said.

## No witch-hunt

In a press conference, presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda Thursday said that the truth commission would neither be a witch-hunt nor “an act of vengeance.”

He pointed out that the commission was necessary because all efforts to unlock the truth in the NBN-ZTE deal, fertilizer scam and “Hello Garci” scandal were thwarted by the moves of Arroyo and high government officials.

With access to these documents, Lacierda said it would not be difficult to prosecute Arroyo especially if there was enough evidence. *With a report from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

## PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

### No surprise: Arroyo, son file Charter change bill

The former President and her son, Camarines Sur Rep. Diosdado Arroyo, filed House Resolution No. 8 calling for a constitutional convention to propose amendments to the 1987 Constitution. The new incumbents in Malacañang aren’t worried, saying they have the numbers to quash the Arroyo proposal if they believe it is not the time to revise the Charter. “Gloria is trying to test the waters,” said Ramon Casiple, executive director of the Institute for Political and Electoral Reforms. “It’s one way of polling members of the House and find out whether she still has the numbers.” Staff members of the Arroyos filed the resolution on their behalf on the first working day of the 15th Congress. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

### Roxas to file poll protest

**MANILA, Philippines**—Former Sen. Manuel “Mar” Roxas II Thursday announced he would file an electoral protest against Vice President Jejomar Binay next week before the

Presidential Electoral Tribunal. Roxas said the protest would be filed next week to beat the deadline for the filing of election protests. He has 30 days from the proclamation of his opponent to file an election protest. “I’m confirming that we will be filing an election protest at the appropriate time. We will give the details at the right time,” Roxas said in an interview. He said he informed President Benigno Aquino III “a long time ago” about his plan to file the protest and the President said “OK.” Binay welcomed the filing of an electoral protest, saying it was Roxas’ right to do so. But the vice president appeared irked at the announcement, which came one day after Binay, along with President Aquino, took his oath of office on Wednesday. Binay said he is ready and confident that the electoral tribunal would uphold his victory. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

### Binay finds office too small, chair too big

**MANILA, Philippines**—What’s the man to do? His chair is too big; his office is a tad too small, too warm and too bare. And the budget? Lesser

than one barangay in Makati. On his first day in a new office Thursday, Vice President Jejomar Binay might well have missed his swank office in his former kingdom, Makati City. The longtime mayor of the Philippines’ prime city and the proud builder of Makati City Hall with its top-of-the-line office furnishings is now holding court in a rented office occupying half of the seventh floor of the Philippine National Bank Building in Pasay City. Speaking with reporters, Binay said he intended to spruce up his bare surroundings: “Bibihisan ko muna ito at hubad na hubad nga eh.” (He groused to his staff during their first official meeting: “You’re the Vice President but you can’t even hold office on the entire floor.”) Settling on his cushioned chair, he found the seat too wide for comfort. “Can I have this chair fixed too?” he said in Filipino, cracking up the entire room. “With my size, I can’t rest my back. How did [former Vice President] Noli de Castro do it? This is only for 6-footers.” (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

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## IMMIGRATION LAW

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# 'Private armies' hold RP politics hostage—security experts

**MANILA, Philippines**—The Philippines may have a new president but more than a hundred "private armies" still dominate local politics, using force and even murder to keep their masters in power, security experts warn.

It is a problem that President Benigno Aquino III has vowed to resolve but it has persisted for decades, fed by poverty and entrenched political dynasties, and few people believe private armies will be eliminated soon.

"Private armies thrive where there are powerful politicians and local kingpins who make local communities that are... untouched by national authority, their own private political domains," a government commission said.

These 'armies' may include soldiers, policemen, civilian volunteers, jail guards, communist or separatist guerrillas, security guards, armed cult groups and street thugs.

But the common denominator is that they work for influential politicians who use them to violently enforce their will in villages, towns and even cities,

the commission warned in a report released recently.

The commission was created to study the phenomenon of private armies following the massacre of 57 people last year in the restive southern province of Magindanao, allegedly by the area's then-ruling clan's private army.

Killings by such private armies may not be an isolated event, according to the commission's six-month-long study.

The national police, in a report to the commission, said it had confirmed the existence of 112 private armies scattered across the country, some with as few as four members but others with hundreds.

Most alarmingly, many members of the private armies are armed and paid by the national government, supposedly for law-enforcement or counter-insurgency purposes, several witnesses told the commission.

These "volunteer groups" or "auxiliary" units are set up for legal objectives such as anti-drug campaigns or even traffic control, commission member Edilberto Adan told Agence

France-Presse.

"But in reality, it turns out they are used for partisan activities by the local government that created them," said Adan, a former general.

This can include government militiamen—part-time soldiers supposedly under military control—who are supposed to defend their communities from communist or Muslim insurgents and bandits.

But such militiamen sometimes end up as enforcers of the local kingpin who supplements their meager P2,700 (\$58) monthly allowance, Adan said.

Even regular soldiers and policemen can be recruited into private armies through money or political favors, the commission found.

The commission pointed to other deep-rooted problems behind the private army phenomenon.

It cited the country's flourishing gun culture, the widespread disregard for the law in settling disputes and the continued existence of a brand of feudalism where many poor people find

themselves relying on a few powerful men.

Aquino, who was sworn in as president on Wednesday, said in the election campaign that "our security forces must be directed to dismantle all private armies".

Aquino's spokesman, Edwin Lacierda, told AFP this meant the military and police would take back control of militia and auxiliary forces from the politicians.

"He wants to make sure they

will be strictly under the supervision of the armed forces and national police," Lacierda told AFP.

This was one of the recommendations of the commission. However, groups such as Human Rights Watch have said the militia and auxiliary forces should be dismantled completely, warning they would remain a threat even if under the supposed control of the military and police.

Aquino and other officials maintain the "auxiliary units" play a vital role in providing security in the absence of enough money to pay for more regular police and army personnel.

"The armed forces need a force multiplier and since the government cannot supply the budget needed for additional regular battalions, the militiamen are the answer," Adan said. (Agence France-Presse)



**MEETING WITH OFWS**

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, center, greets members of a group called "Overseas Filipinos for Good Governance" during his first full day at the Malacanang presidential palace in Manila, Philippines on Thursday, July 1, 2010. AP

## HK OFWs ask Aquino: Cut passport cost

**MANILA, Philippines**—President Benigno Aquino III should work to lower passport cost for overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), organizations of Filipino migrant workers in Hong Kong said.

Almost 10,000 OFWs signed a petition expressing this demand which the United Filipinos in Hong Kong-Migrante and Gabriela-Hong Kong submitted to the Philippine consulate general there.

HK-based OFWs applying for an e-passport have to pay HK\$510 (around P3,000), up from the HK\$425 (around P2,500) for the machine-readable passport introduced to HK OFWs in April this year, said Dolores Balladares in a news release.

"The price of passports in the Philippines is only P950 or

said Balladares, were only from their first wave of the campaign.

The demand is also part of the 10-point HK OFW agenda for the new administration. Balladares said that the agenda contain the most urgent and concrete issues of OFWs in Hong Kong, among them the scrapping of authentication fee and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration's Omnibus Policies.

In a related development, the Department of Foreign Affairs said its extension office at the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency require that OFWs applying for passports bring a copy of a Contract of Employment (for new OFWs), or Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC) issued by POEA (to visiting OFWs), or a valid working visa, as proof of their status.

## TAKE CHARGE

### Falling interest rates sweeten real estate deals

By DR. JOHNNY NOET RAVALO

INQUIRER.NET

**Q**uestions: At present, interest rates are so low that the net interest income we get is almost nothing. Is there some investment out there that we can consider without really taking tremendous risks?—Ysah

**M**y wife and I now have a one-year-old daughter. We live in a rented place and budgets are tight but workable. My wife and I have to negotiate our lease almost yearly and that uncertainty is getting difficult to bear with our young baby in mind. We have a small piece of land but it is far from where we work and we cannot borrow much from a bank to build a suitable home of our own. Would you have any suggestions?—Mike

These two questions show us the two sides of the interest rate story that policymakers face.

As a would-be borrower, Mike welcomes the idea that he and his wife can take a housing loan from a bank with a cheaper amortization. The low interest rates will allow Mike and his family to invest in their own home by stretching their budgets a bit.

For Ysah, though, the low interest rate regime is a problem. This is not only because the interest income (net of 20 percent withholding tax) are also low but quite literally the benefits may be so low that some people may actually prefer to consume the income instead of saving it. This situation invites a very real economic problem where the ramifications are severe and they cut through every economic activity.

It is possible to use the current low-interest rate reality into a probable investment option, one that Ysah and Mike may both consider.

With traffic perennially bad and gasoline prices going upward, buying a condominium or apartment unit much closer to the office to avoid the hustle of traffic and the migraine of gasoline bills has become an attractive option.

Perhaps smarting from the lessons of the last housing boom that got cut by the 1997 crisis, developers are getting creative with their financing schemes. Now these units—mostly still unfinished—are no longer just traffic or gasoline relief. They can be investment options.

It is now common for developers to offer a 3-part financing package. A 10-10-80 deal would mean that you put in a downpayment of 10 percent, another 10 percent of the gross price is to be amortized over a fixed period of time and the balance of 80 percent of the gross price is to be paid once the unit is turned over to you after the fixed period. One can also get a 20-10-70 arrangement and the fixed period is usually between 24 to 36 months.

Let's play with some hypothetical numbers. Let us say that a unit is being offered for P5 million on a 20-10-70 package over a 24-month period. If you get this, you pay P1 million (20 percent of P5 million) up front as down payment and pay P20,833.33 monthly for 24 months (10 percent of P5 million divided equally over 24 months). The balance of P3.5 million is due on the 25th month.

If Mike takes this option, he is saying that (1) he can provide P1 million right now and (2) can

reasonably pay roughly an additional P21,000 a month for the next two years. But what about the P3.5 million at the end of two years? The "bet" he is implicitly making is that he can be eligible for a loan in two years for this amount.

Is this a reasonable bet? This will depend on Mike's specific circumstances, but if he were to build a house on his property right now, he will most likely have to borrow anyway and it will be for the full value of construction (although prudential banking norms will limit his borrowing capacity to a percentage of the value).

Taking this route helps Mike to buy two years of leeway to improve his borrowing capacity (say, through office promotions) or winning the lotto (just kidding!). He also has the leeway to decide what to do with his piece of land whether to hold on to it, use it for financing the first two years or use part of it for financing the balance of the deal which is due on the 25th month.

This option gives Mike an option to deal with the uncertainty of annual rentals and fulfill his wish to have a home for his family. But all that is still subject to doing the calculations and deciding if the offer is worth it.

And what about Ysah?

Since these types of packages are often offered while the building is still being built, the expectation is that the market price of the property—subject to having a credible developer, of course—will appreciate. For Ysah then, this could very well be a option for an investment.

Her principal will essentially be the down payment and the monthly amortization. The investment question is whether the market price will appreciate once the unit is turned over to her and whether that appreciation is larger than the gains she would have gotten had she invested the principal elsewhere.

Like Mike, Ysah is not exempted from doing some number crunching. Like Mike too, there are risks involved when she ventures into this investment option. But that is precisely the nature of the investment beast: the returns to be expected (or any realized loss) comes out of risk-taking. In the absence of this risk-taking, Ysah gets back to principal-guaranteed savings deposits.

Let me be very clear: these packages are NOT sure-fire investment options. These are options under the present reality of low interest rates, both for someone looking to have a home and for someone looking for investment options. They are, by no means guaranteed-to-work possibilities.

Have a question for Dr. Noet? Email personal\_finance@inquirer.net. Noet Raval is a macro-financial economist by practice and profession. He was chief economist of the Bankers Association of the Philippines until 2002 and has since been doing consulting work for multilateral and foreign agencies. His current engagements are with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the PDS Group. Readers are solely responsible for their investment decisions and should thus conduct their own research and due diligence and obtain professional advice. INQUIRER.net will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by a reader's reliance on information obtained from this web site.

# Maharlika – PinoyStyle

## RUSHES

### How not to keep quiet

By the INQUIRER ENTERTAINMENT STAFF  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

For one who has vowed to zip it about her latest marital mishap, Kris Aquino has been on a roll.

Tuesday last week, Boy Abunda announced that she failed to attend an event in Cebu because of "problems" with her husband, basketball player James Yap.

The following day, she gave statements via Twitter and on her nightly show, "SNN," confirming that she had "issues" with her hubby. On Friday, she used the word "separation" for the first time.

Sunday on "The Buzz," she declared, "I can comfortably say... [that] I've given up... [that] the marriage is over on my part."

Such clockwork precision! Except, what did that mean, "on her part"?

Yap seemed like he was the last to know. He told "TV Patrol" on Wednesday that his wife's shout-outs had caught him by surprise. On Sunday, he assured the Kapamilya newscast that he had yet to discuss the matter with Kris, that he still hoped to fix the situation, and that he would attend the inauguration of his brother-in-law, the President. He didn't.

#### Top of the talk shows

For those who missed last weekend's gabfests on TV. (And why we are moved, if we are moved.)

John Prats' reaction when John Lloyd Cruz admitted romancing Shaina Magdayao: "Parang wala lang sa akin." (Wala, walang kwentang sagot!)

Jennylyn Mercado on finally allowing Patrick Garcia

to visit their child Alex Jazz: "Ayokong magtanum ng galit." (O, siya, tama na ha?)

■ Kris Aquino on deciding to end her marriage: "It's not a spur of the moment decision... James and I both tried to really make this work. On my part, what I'm comfortable saying is, with finality I can say, ako sumuko na... Kung anuman ang dahilan why this marriage, on my part, I'm saying, is over, the only person I will owe an explanation to, and the only person who can demand from me na bakit kayo naghawalay, is my son." (Eto pa isla. Last na 'to ha?)

■ Kris Aquino, contemplating on what may happen after her brother's six-year term as Philippine President: (Let's skip this; it's not fun.)

■ Ruffa Gutierrez, asked if she and John Lloyd Cruz were still together when he started dating Shaina Magdayao: "Yes... We tried naman our best to say goodbye finally." (Hay, salamat. Tapos na rin ito.)

■ Claudine Barretto, asked if alleged marital problems caused her absence from the GMA 7 60th anniversary special: "Hindi ko talaga alam. But, we're really okay... nagkacounselling kami once a month or twice a month... Bago pa maging problema, we deal with the problem." (Problem is not yet problema, understand?)

■ PBB Teen Clash winner James Reid on his victory: "I felt it was unfair to the other housemates... I was just lying in bed and I wasn't able to do much of anything." (Stardom also comes to those who wait.) *Gerry Plaza* (*Startalk, The Buzz, Showbiz Central, Paparazzi*)

## James will fight for marriage, tells Kris not to give up

File photo shows James Yap and Kris Aquino in happier times.

By MUSONG R. CASTILLO  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—This is an entirely different ball game that James Yap will try to win, not for Derby Ace in the Philippine Basketball Association, but for fatherhood and family.

Finally breaking his silence almost a week after estranged wife Kris Aquino made a startling announcement to the end of their marriage on nationwide television, the on-court gun-slinger said he would fight to save their marriage.

Dingdong Dantes can't help but get affected when his GF, Marian Rivera, is bombarded with negative issues.

"Of course magkakampi kami," he says. "But I understand naman that the media have to do their job. Sana lang i-confirm muna sa amin."

Such is Dong's love for Marian. Her pain is his as well. The fab couple will reunite on-screen in GMA 7's "Endless Love" (weeknights on GMA Telebabad), the local adaptation of the first successful Korean series. Dong is Johnny and Marian portrays Jenny. They are siblings from a well-off family.

Their lives turn topsy-turvy when an accident leads their family to discover an incident from the past. How is it different from all the love stories they did in the past?

"We are more eager and passionate to be back on TV to do the job we love doing, which is actually the reason why we are together right now," Dong explains. "Some say this may be our last project together, but we treat every show as if it were our last so the impact will always be felt."

What's the biggest test that they have gone through as a couple? "It's how to differ-

"I believe in the importance of having an intact family," Yap said in a statement, written in Pilipino, released to members of the sports media. "That's why I will fight to keep my family with Kris intact whatever happens."

"I know that every family encounters tests like these," he continued. "Kris and I have made it through such tests before and I don't think that this would be the right time for us to surrender [to such tests]."

Married to the superstar endorser and talk show host Aquino for the last six years, Yap has

a son by the actress, three-year-old James, and the statement that Yap's camp released emphasized that he did not want to lose the role of playing father to his son.

"Baby James, I am doing this because of my love for our family," Yap wrote. "I want to keep our family intact."

By this, Yap could have meant having to leave their One Roxas condominium home in Makati earlier in the week so that Kris and Baby James could stay there.

According to highly placed sources who asked not to be identified, the cager himself

## Say Alonzo caught between two friends

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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What's the biggest test that they have gone through as a couple? "It's how to differ-

tiate love on-screen and off-screen," he says, laughing. "Seriously, I love my job because I work with the woman who truly knows me the most."

I was so touched when Tita Gina Pareño told me that she misses my mom every time she sees me. How sweet of her to remember that my mom was there for her during her darkest hours by sending her to rehab when she was still hooked on drugs.

So is it really "clean living" for her now? "I would be crazy to go back to my old days," she said. "Sobra-sobrang blessings ang bigay sa akin ni Lord sa pagbabalik-show biz ko. I won't do anything to ruin it. Ayoko nang bumalik sa dilim."

After bagging countless acting awards here and abroad, her dream role is to portray a mentally retarded woman. That would be easy for her since she knows what it's like to be kinda "crazy."

But after all the madness, she's one strong woman who's found her way back to make the audience crazy about her.

#### Guess list

■ A married actor could not contain himself when he spotted a sexy starlet on the set of his show. "Paki-kuha number niya," he whispered to his makeup artist. "Ganyan ang type ko.

Maganda ang butt." While getting ready for his close-up, the actor wants an up close and personal encounter with the pretty young thing.

■ A TV host called a voluptuous co-host backstage to come near him and his best friend actor. The cast got stunned when he fondled her breasts and bragged to his friend, "Kita mo, ang laki!" The poor girl just bowed her head and didn't say a thing. Perhaps the host thinks that getting sleazy with his co-hosts is in his job description.

■ SayAlonzo is caught between close friends Sam Milby and Uma Khouny. Uma insists that Sam has a love child with his sister, while Sam vehemently denies it. "Basta the baby is so cute," Say reveals. "Pero out ako sa issue nila Sam and Uma. Dapat mag-usap sila nang masinsinan. 'Yung walang camera at media. Si Uma blunt talaga 'yun. Bahala na ang tao sino gusto nila paniwalaan. Sana lang wag masira friendship naming tatlo."



Alonzo

packed his things and moved into a borrowed condo because Aquino didn't want to come home while he was there.

The same source swore no third party was involved, claiming that both could have just been "stressed out," although he said that both have been cold to each other for the last two to three weeks.

Yap also sounded off an appeal to Aquino, whose announcement came months after she reportedly stormed the house of an alleged girlfriend of James in Valle Verde in Pasig.

"Kris, we have gone through a lot of more serious problems than this one," Yap said. "I have kept quiet all those times out of respect for our family. I love you and my son and Josh [Aquino's son by Philip Salvador] whom I have considered as my own."

"Another thing, I also promised Mom Cory (the late former President Corazon Aquino) that I will always take care of our family," Yap said. "Kris and I also swore to Mom Cory that we will never separate."

Yap also said that he got the blessing of newly elected President Benigno Aquino that he would miss his inauguration last Wednesday through text. He said that the President said that he understood his situation fully well.

"I am hopeful that the right time will come and that Kris and I will be able to solve everything."

## Say Alonzo caught between two friends

When Gretchen Barretto talks, people listen. They may not always agree with what she says, but they always like what they see.

Greta can look life straight in the eye and does what she has to do, as long as she's dressed for the part.

"Magkaribal," her new drama series on ABS-CBN, gives Greta a chance to strut her stuff: Her acting skills and a tres chic wardrobe. She plays Victoria, "Queen of Philippine Fashion." Bea Alonzo plays rival sister Gela, "Queen of Divisoria." They compete for the love of Louie (Derek Ramsay). Wouldn't the series be more exciting if Greta's equally controversial sister, Claudine, played Gela instead?

"Our casting director did a good job," Greta says. "This is not to take anything away from Claudine, who is definitely one of the most talented actresses we have."

What does her partner, Tonyboy Cojuangco, say about her rift with Angelica Panganiban, brought about by her playful remarks about Derek Ramsay? "He understands the complications of a career in entertainment," says Greta. "Besides, there is no real rift between Angelica and me, at least as far as I'm concerned."

## Ai Ai back in school, kids find it 'cool'

By MARINEL R. CRUZ  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Ai Ai De Las Alas attended her first class at the University of the Philippines in Diliman on June 21, where she is taking a four-year course at the National College for Public Administration and Governance.

Other show biz celebrities who earned certificates from this college are Batangas Gov. Vilma Santos and incoming Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista.

Ai Ai was quick to clarify that she had no intention of seeking public office any time soon. "I just want to keep my mind busy with something other than my job," she told Inquirer on Thursday.

She was obviously proud of making it to UP. She took up Mass Communications at the Far Eastern University earlier,

she said, because she was afraid of taking the UP College Admission Test.

Ai Ai said her kids Sancho, Nicolo and Sophia are very supportive of this undertaking. "One of them said, 'Mommy that's so cool,' Ang sabi naman nisa, 'bongga!'"

Martina Aileen de las Alas—that's her—is in a class of 20. "I'm the only one from show biz." She already has a crush on a classmate, an Army serviceman who "looks like Ariel Rivera. He's so handsome!"

Even while she's in school, the work doesn't stop for this hardworking mom. Best known for her "Tanging Ina" tag, she always says that everything she does is for her kids. Her newest TV assignment is ABS-CBN's "M3" sitcom, and her latest endorsement deal is for the painkiller Naproxen Sodium.

They lives turn topsy-turvy when an accident leads their family to discover an incident from the past. How is it different from all the love stories they did in the past?

"We are more eager and passionate to be back on TV to do the job we love doing, which is actually the reason why we are together right now," Dong explains. "Some say this may be our last project together, but we treat every show as if it were our last so the impact will always be felt."

What's the biggest test that they have gone through as a couple? "It's how to differ-

# Maharlika – Opinyon

## An inaugural address in Pilipino

**I**t wasn't just the words but the language in which they were uttered that made a difference—and perhaps it is because we Filipinos generally learn English in the classroom and Filipino at home. We think formal thoughts in English, but speak our most innermost feelings in our native tongue. Perhaps too it was such a contrast to the imperial and imperious style of his predecessor that we citizens have come to associate formal speechifying with her brazenness and disingenuity.

Also, the Inaugural Address resonated intuitively with the native soul because it gave voice to people's laments, and at times in homely and down-to-earth metaphors. It spoke of fate and destiny: "Hin-

### EDITORIAL

#### A mandate for change

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**I**t was only right that President Benigno Aquino III used his inaugural address to draw a sharp contrast between the previous administration and the new, because the results of the May 10 elections were all about change. His campaign for the presidency, indeed the very premise of his improbable candidacy, was the promise of change.

But it was a specific kind of change, not change for its own sake, but a return to the moral clarity and civic assumptions that lie at the root of the democratic project: that public office is a public trust, that the public interest trumps self-interest, that the elected and the appointed are, in the new President's words, "here to serve and not to lord over you."

Of the many things we can quote from his 21-minute address, perhaps the following sustained passage is best: "No more junkets, no more senseless spending. No more turning back on pledges made during the campaign, whether today or in the coming challenges that will confront us over the next six years. No more influence-peddling, no more patronage politics, no more stealing. No more sirens, no more short cuts, no more bribes. It is time for us to work together once more."

The series of "no mores" sums up much of what was wrong with the previous administration and which drove the great majority of Filipino voters to vote for someone other than Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's official or perceived candidate for president. It serves to condense into five sentences the new administration's "marching orders" (to use a characteristic turn of phrase of the new President's). It ranges from the simple enough (the ban on the use of "wang-wangs") to the truly complicated (the end, not only of bribes, but of patronage politics, which is the matrix from which the corrupt emerge).

Another much-applauded passage was President Aquino's direct order to the new justice secretary, Leila de Lima, to "Begin the process of providing true and complete justice for all"—in part because the politicization of the administration of justice, especially since 2004, was a constant source of the "suffering" that President Aquino rightly said had been imposed on the Filipino people.

We wish the President had said something more specific about his plans to bring an end to the communist insurgency. We also wish he had framed his first official and indeed most ceremonial speech from a longer historical perspective; it was certainly animated by a sense of history, but one that was both recent and personal. We would have all benefited from a reading of history that placed his parents, one a national hero and the other a democratic icon, in our long tradition of patriotic self-sacrifice and heroism.

But the inaugural address, about twice as long as advertised, managed to discuss some of the most pressing problems the country faces, including the need to promote the true interests of the country's millions of farmers, the imperative of creating more jobs at home to slow the exodus of Filipinos migrating abroad, the search for an honorable peace in Mindanao and the continuing need—a generation after his mother popularized the principle—to recognize the fact that "there can be no reconciliation without justice."

The true heart of the inaugural speech, however, lay in the new President's identification with ordinary citizens. The transformative magic of direct elections allowed Aquino, the scion of one of the country's wealthiest families and proud bearer of the most potent name in Philippine politics, to claim "I am like you"—and to be taken at his word. In his sincerity, in his actuations since his mother passed away last August, and above all in his campaign, millions of Filipinos have indeed come to see the man the entire country calls "Noynoy" as "just like us." Now that's a change.

di ko inakala na darating tayo sa punong ito ...." It spoke of the typical Filipino longing: to be "marangal na anak, mabait na kuya, at mabuting mamamayan." It spoke of our frustrations: "pambahalaang bulag at bingi," "ang pamumunong manhid sa mga daing ng taumbayan" "ang pakiramdam na ... mabalewala ng mga taong pinagkatiwalaan at inatasan nating maging ating tagapagtanggol."

The clincher of course was the reference to abusive VIP drivers, the most maddening example of government big shots pushing their weight around: "naghaharihang de-wangwang sa kalsada." Thus the pledge: "Walang wang-wang, walang counter-flow, walang tong." On Wednesday, when the news came out that President Aquino's convoy stopped at every traffic light on the way to his oath-taking, a radio commentator was gushing that for the first time we had a President who followed traffic rules. And while I personally feel that the President himself ought to be exempted, given the security risks, I was impressed to hear that same afternoon from a peace-keeping officer that he would stop using his siren, saying that he was merely following the President's example: "Magsisimula ito sa akin. Sisikapin kong maging isang mabuting empleho."

It was also significant to mark those times when he shifted to English. One, when he spoke of legal matters. "To those who are talking about reconciliation...we have this to say: there can be no reconciliation without justice. ....Secretary De Lima, you have your marching orders. Begin the process of providing true and complete justice for all." And two, when he spoke of foreign investments: "We will be a predictable and consistent place of investments, a nation where...it all works."

The Inaugural Address had to tread a delicate balance. Noynoy was elected on a promise to end impunity and corruption. Had he dwelt on it too much, he might have been seen as too backward-looking, corrective rather than constructive. Had he glossed over it, he would certainly be seen as going soft on campaign promises. The Davide-led Truth Commission and the "no reconciliation without justice" principle amply covered that point.

If at all one balance was not maintained, it was the one between solemnity and populism. The presidential address itself hit the point of equilibrium quite deftly, sufficiently folksy as it should be for a popularly elected president, yet with enough substance and gravitas

to point the way for a six-year term in office. The balance was lost, however, in what I can best call the cultural numbers in the program, mostly by the best loved icons of Philippine pop music. I can accept the argument that Noynoy's inauguration was one truly celebratory moment and that the Pinoy's most natural celebratory instinct is to sing and dance. In other words, what I find ornate and show biz, other people might find simply true and honest. Perhaps, too, it is a generational difference, and I may be out of touch with the more touchy-feely ways that have emerged since I graduated from university.

And finally, it has been explained that the inaugural program moved too fast and President Noynoy arrived early, and the organizers had to contend with the constitutional clause that said that the President's term "shall begin at noon on the thirtieth day of June next following the election." They had to pad the schedule with more songs, which to the dismay of this stiff professor, happened with some waving of hands that would have more properly belonged to the Quezon Memorial Circle party later that day.

After all, why be surprised when, come to think of it, the Aquino saga begins with "Tie a Yellow Ribbon," a pop song that its authors couldn't have imagined as a political anthem and which until today we remember with the yellow emblems of

Edsa 1. My college-age son, in August last year, asked me: "You mean it's actually a song?"

The generational differences may actually go much deeper. What we witnessed on Wednesday was the peaceful transfer of power from one President to another. Today's youth might take this for granted. Remember that Ninoy Aquino insisted on going back to Manila in August 1986 precisely because he was worried that if Ferdinand Marcos soon died, either his wife Imelda or Gen. Fabian Ver would take over. Marcos would not tolerate an ambitious vice president and had deliberately kept that post vacant. What we should see instead today is the institutionalization of our democracy, something that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo almost didn't allow to happen. I wish our new President the best of luck as he inherits the burdens of her legacy.

Comments to [passionforreason@gmail.com](mailto:passionforreason@gmail.com)

## Mabini's advice

**W**hy, ask some people, is Jose Rizal on the one-peso coin and Ninoy Aquino on the P500 bill? Since Rizal costs less than Ninoy, does it make his sacrifice and heroism less too?

In the currencies of many countries, the most famous hero is placed on the most circulated denomination. Thus, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas placed Rizal on the one-peso coin that also happens to be the basic unit of our currency. Emilio Aguinaldo is on the five-peso coin that used to be worth, among other things, a bottle of Coke "sakto." Then we have the P10 coin shared by Andres Bonifacio and Apolinario Mabini. Shouldn't they be given their own coins? Bonifacio used to be on the two-peso coin whose circulation has been discontinued. Bonifacio and Mabini used to share space on the P10 bill, which is also out of circulation.

On the P10 coin Bonifacio is more prominent than Mabini, raising the question of "who is greater." This sparks the debate on who should be the National Hero. But all the heroes on our stamps and coins are "national," so schoolchildren should learn from all of them rather than focus attention only on Rizal.

Rizal left us with 25 volumes of writings that nobody reads, except those in search of a doctoral dissertation. I have always maintained that one of the ironies of Philippine life is that we have a National Hero who wrote a lot for a nation that does not read. There are other heroes and patriots who wrote memoirs and letters that also remain unread because their work, until recently, remained inaccessible in Spanish.

Another of the ironies of Philippine life is that we are separated from our past, cut off from our history because of language. Filipinos are said to have short memories and do not reflect on history. That is not just an issue of language and translation, but stems from the fact that after the destruction of the National Library and Archives during the Battle for Manila in 1945, many primary source materials required for the writing of our history remain in libraries, archives and other repositories abroad.

President Aquino announced during his inaugural speech that taking his oath, at noon of June 30, 2010, marked the beginning of his "Kalbaryo." A long journey of six years started with an oath to defend the Constitution and to be true and just to every Filipino. With all these challenges facing the President, we cannot expect him to find time and read the writings of our heroes, but it is hoped that he finds time to read a short work by Mabini entitled "La revolucion Filipina" first published in 1931 and translated from the original Spanish by the late Leon Ma. Guerrero in 1969 and given the title "The Philippine Revolution."



### Passion For Reason

By RAUL PANGALANGAN

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



### Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The Aquino campaign for the presidency made us recall the Cory Aquino funeral last year and the Ninoy Aquino funeral in 1983 as well as Edsa 1986. Maybe we should push it back to the original Philippine Revolution started by Andres Bonifacio at the tail-end of the 19th century to see that people have passed on but the situation remains the same. Mabini writes about the failure of the Philippine Revolution but when you read his painful words today, he seems to be speaking of the present:

"To sum it up: the Revolution failed because it was badly led; because its leader won his post by reprehensible rather than meritorious acts; because instead of supporting the men most useful to the people, he made them useless out of jealousy. Identifying the aggrandizement of the people with his own, he judged the worth of men not by their ability, character and patriotism, but rather by their degree of friendship and kinship with him; and anxious to secure the readiness of his favorites to sacrifice themselves for him, he was tolerant even of their transgressions. Because he thus neglected the people, the people forsook him; and forsaken by the people, he was bound to fall like a waxen idol melting in the heat of adversity. God grant we do not forget such a terrible lesson, learnt at the cost of untold suffering."

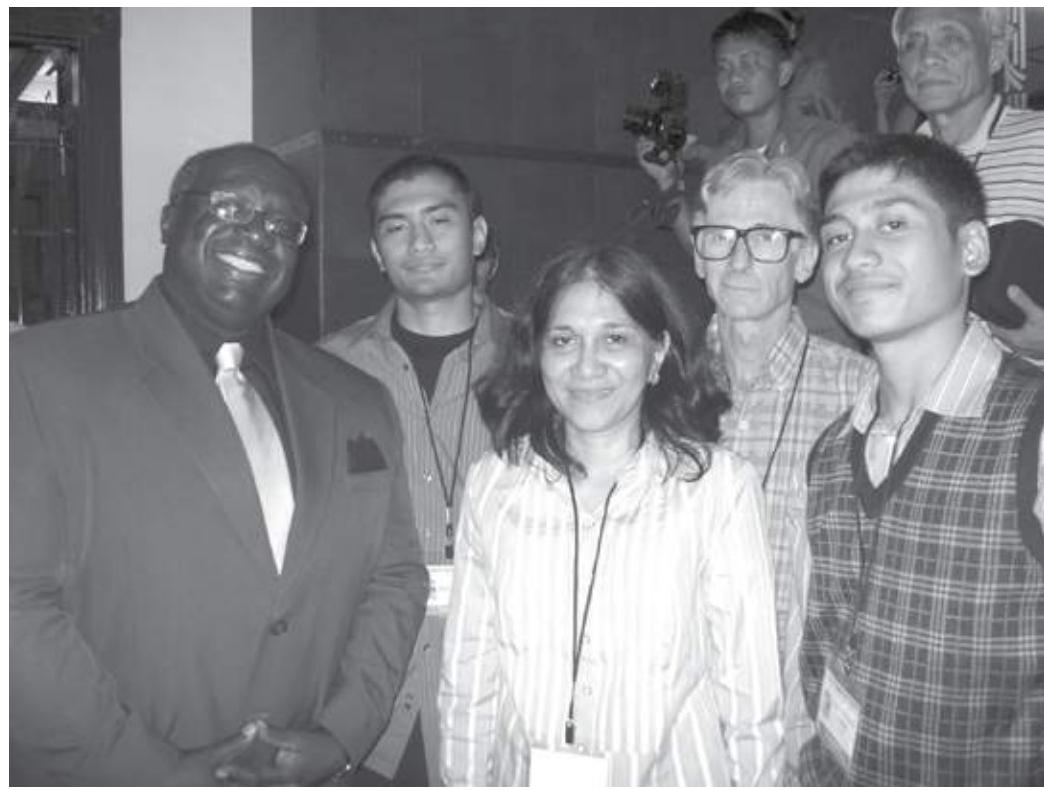
Mabini is talking about Emilio Aguinaldo but his words can also apply to later presidents of the Philippines. Long before the "Panatang Pagbabago" was even conceived, Mabini left his people with these words:

"Only he is truly a patriot who, whatever his post, high or low, tries to do the greatest possible good to his countrymen. A little good done in an humble position is a title to honor and glory, while it is a sign of negligence or incompetence when done in high office. True honor can be discerned in the simple manifestations of an upright and honest soul, not in brilliant pomp and ornament which scarcely serve to mask the deformities of the body. True honor is attained by teaching our minds to recognize truth, and training our hearts to love it. The recognition of truth shall lead us to the recognition of our duties and of justice, and by performing our duties and doing justice, we shall be respected and honored whatever our station in life."

These words ring true not because Mabini was psychic. These words remain relevant not because history repeats itself. Philippine society has not changed much in the past century. We have been repeating history.

Comments are welcome at [aocampo@ateneo.edu](mailto:aocampo@ateneo.edu)

# Maharlika – Samu't Sari



## GOOD GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, US Ambassador to the Philippines Harry Thomas Jr., Jericho Santos, Dr. Celia b. Lamkin MD, Ronald P. Lamkin, and John Raymond B. Sablan at the welcome reception held June 29 at the Salcedo Village, Makati City, the Philippines, for the delegates of the Conference of Overseas Filipinos for Good Governance.



## PASSPORT RENEWAL

CLARISSA DAVID

Passport renewal applicants wait for their turn on the first day of issuance of e-passports at the Philippine Consulate office in Marianas Business Plaza. An e-passport application costs \$60.



## INAUGURATION GUESTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

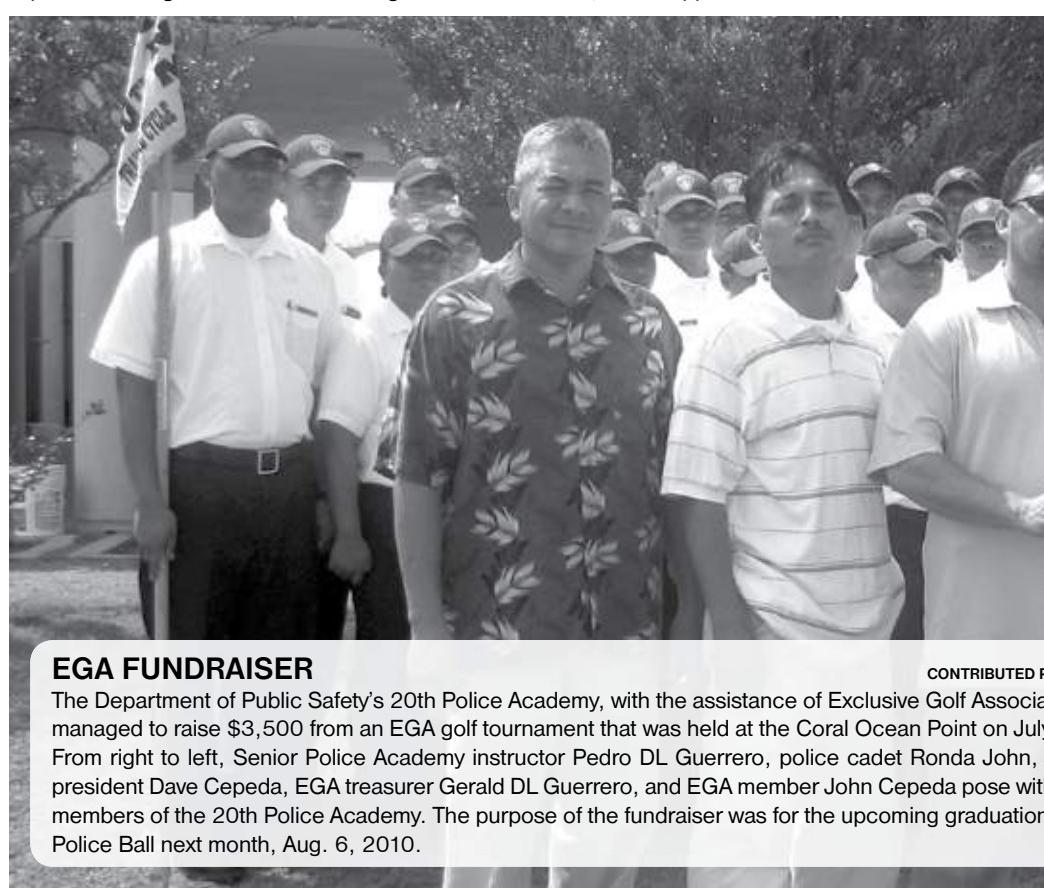
From left, John Raymond B. Sablan, Mar Masilungan, Ronald P. Lamkin, Celia B. Lamkin MD; Filipino-American leader, lawyer and philanthropist Loida Nicolas Lewis; BANDILA Partylist spokesman Bishop Nilo S. Tayag; and Jericho B. Santos have their picture taken at the Manila Hotel right after President Benigno Aquino III's inauguration at the Quirino grandstand in Manila, the Philippines.



## SAFETY TRAINING

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Public School System personnel listen to certified trainer Ginger Porter, not shown in photo, during the "Bus Driver Passenger Sensitivity and Safety Training" at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio on June 30, 2010.



## EGA FUNDRAISER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Department of Public Safety's 20th Police Academy, with the assistance of Exclusive Golf Association, managed to raise \$3,500 from an EGA golf tournament that was held at the Coral Ocean Point on July 19. From right to left, Senior Police Academy instructor Pedro DL Guerrero, police cadet Ronda John, EGA president Dave Cepeda, EGA treasurer Gerald DL Guerrero, and EGA member John Cepeda pose with the members of the 20th Police Academy. The purpose of the fundraiser was for the upcoming graduation and Police Ball next month, Aug. 6, 2010.



# YoungStyle

## Calif. teen, back home, recounts sailing' ordeal



Abby Sunderland, the 16-year-old girl who attempted to sail around the world, arrives for a news conference in Marina Del Rey, Calif., Tuesday, June 29, 2010.

By JACOB ADELMAN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**MARINA DEL REY, Calif.** (AP)—Abby Sunderland was below deck repairing the waterlogged engine of her ocean racer Wild Eyes when a monster wave rose up out of the gathering darkness on the Indian Ocean, flipped her vessel, sent her tumbling and dashed her dreams of sailing around the world alone.

The rogue wave snapped off the ship's mast, destroyed her telephone line and left her adrift at sea, banged up and bruised in the boat's watertight hold 2,000 miles from land.

"Things went black for a second," Sunderland said Tuesday, about 12 hours after she returned home, as she recounted in detail for the first time the terrifying moments when she lost touch with civilization and realized her quest was dead.

"There were times I was scared, definitely," she said. "But you get scared and then you have to get over it because being scared, it doesn't do anything good. It just makes you hesitate and makes more problems start coming."

Sunderland returned Tuesday to the port where she set sail Jan. 23. She arrived by car not to a victory parade, but to a news conference to detail what went wrong, thank her rescuers and—once again—defend her family for letting her chase her dream.

The appearance was something of an anticlimax for the young sailor, who has been interviewed several times since her rescue on June 12.

But in recounting how her endeavor to be the youngest sailor to lap the globe turned to a mere solo circumnavigation attempt and then left her at the mercy of the turbulent open seas, Sunderland was like the calm after the

storm, looking straight at reporters and providing the most detail to date of her ordeal.

Sunderland had just spoken to her family by satellite phone on June 10, when the massive wave broadsided Wild Eyes, knocking the 40-foot boat over and sending her tumbling in its hold.

When she regained consciousness and rushed to the boat's deck, she found a one-inch fiberglass stump where her mast once stood.

Back in the boat's hold, she tested the engine she had just repaired. It would not start.

She reached for the satellite phone she had used to call her family a short while ago with the good news that her engine was running again. It too had been ruined by the water that flooded her boat.

Sunderland had a backup phone stowed in a separate compartment of the boat, but was anxious to seal herself in for the night against the churning ocean.

She had left just one means of communication: the so-called EPIRB distress beacons that she was only to use as a last resort.

She activated the beacons, letting her family and support team know she was in trouble—and that her journey was over.

"I worked to try and find some way that I could get myself and the boat to land without having to set off my EPIRBs," she said. "Once I realized that wasn't going to be happening, I set them off."

The next morning, Sunderland felt a mix of excitement and disbelief when she spotted the rescue plane that tracked her beacons.

She told searchers aboard the Airbus A330 that she was doing fine with a space heater and at least two weeks worth of food when they made contact with her via radio.

It would be three days before

the French fishing vessel sent to pluck her from the sea arrived at her boat.

While she waited, she tidied up Wild Eyes. She knew she'd be leaving it behind soon, but needed something to distract her from her fears and the worry she knew she was causing her family.

But when the fishing ship, called Ile de la Reunion, arrived, her rescue was tinged with regret as she parted with Wild Eyes, which a spokesman valued at \$120,000 with the equipment on board.

After her months on Wild Eyes—depending on it for her survival and working to keep it seaworthy after passing through rough seas—it pained her to leave it behind.

"I wasn't quite ready to leave," she said. "To just step off of it and know that I'm never going to see that boat again, it was really hard."

Thus began her 16-day voyage to Reunion Island, where she was met by her 18-year-old brother Zac, who successfully completed a round-the-world voyage last year, briefly becoming the youngest person to do so. His record has since been broken.

Her first meal on the fishing ship was better than the freeze-dried rations that sustained her on Wild Eyes—though she never found out what it was, since nobody on the almost-exclusively French-speaking crew could tell her.

She spent her days staring out windows and flipping through French magazines, she said, reflecting on her journey, while her French hosts did their best to make her feel welcome.

Indeed, Sunderland family spokesman Lyall Mercer said Abby's soon-to-be-born sibling—her seventh—would be named Paul in honor of the Ile de la Reunion's captain, Paul Louis Le Moigne.

Sunderland said she was grateful that little news reached her on the ship, so she didn't have to hear the criticism heaped on her parents over their decision to let her set sail alone despite her youth.

"It's extremely hurtful. It's sad to see some of it," she said.

Her family issued a separate statement Tuesday saying they had been subjected to intense personal criticism they felt crossed the line of decency.

Many people criticized Sunderland's parents for allowing the high-risk adventure, calling it all but irresponsible to send a teenager off alone in a small

boat, knowing it will be tossed by the giant waves that rake the Southern Hemisphere's oceans this time of year.

The Sunderlands have maintained they did nothing wrong and that criticism of her should have ended months ago when she safely sailed around Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope.

Abby Sunderland said in her remarks Tuesday that she was as prepared as anyone possibly could be for the journey, but that sailors of any age or experience are vulnerable to unexpected, rapidly forming waves like the one that slammed into her boat.

"My trip didn't end because of

something I did wrong," she said.

The family said in their state-

ment said the family was willing to forgive critics who don't

know them or understand Abby's experience and ambition.

Sunderland dismissed reports that she was cooperating with reality show and documentary film crews on productions about her journey and her family's seafaring life, but said she may write a book based on the notes she's written herself to help remember her experience.

"I loved pretty much every second of my trip and I really don't ever want to forget all the great memories of that," she said.

### Science Matters

## Ice in clouds, fire from sky

*Weather scientists are still trying to discover the secrets of lightning. The current thinking is that ice crystals play a crucial step.*

### The evidence ...

Satellite studies found that lightning comes from thunderstorms with **high ice content**

Those clouds often—but not always—bring **heavy rainfall** from the melting ice

### ... and the theory

**1** Updrafts lift and cool moist air; ice crystals form

**2** Turbulence makes ice particles collide, knocking electrons free

**3** Some particles develop positive charge, some negative

**4** Positive charge collects at top of cloud, negative at bottom, near ground

**5** Charge is released in 50,000 F (28,000 C) bolt of lightning

## Moves in more than one direction

### Inside cloud

From most to least charged parts of cloud

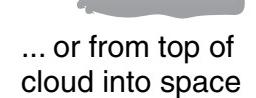
**90% of all lightning**



### Upward strike

Giant jet shoots from middle to top of cloud

... or from top of cloud into space

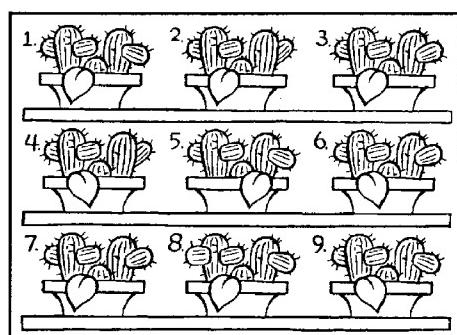


### 'From the blue'

Positive charge from top of cloud moves sideways

Travels 30 mi. (48 km) or more

Source: New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Science Daily, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration © 2010 MCT Graphic: Helen Lee McComas

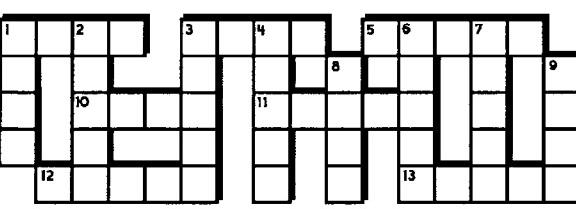


**A PRICKLY PROBLEM!** See if you can find the two cactus plants that look exactly alike in less than 30 seconds.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

### SHORT-NAME AMERICAN CITIES!



Illustrated by David Coulson

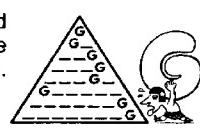
**A BUSTED BAFFLER!** Clumsy Calvin will never be able to use this broken vase. However, can you think of two things that have to be broken before they can be used?



Answers: Plants 3 and 7.

**THE "G" PYRAMID!** As you move down the word pyramid shown here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the G's. Here are some hints from the top down:

- 1. Slang for \$1,000 (given).
- 2. Move along.
- 3. Unhewn timber.
- 4. Of great duration.
- 5. An unfamiliar language.
- 6. Elfin creature.
- 7. Locking the door.
- 8. Swelling with water.



Answers: (Across) 1. Avon, 3. Milo, 5. Amory, 10. Iola, 11. Eaton, 12. Troy, 13. Tracy (Down) 1. Alla, 2. Odis, 3. Meade, 4. Leeds, 5. Minot, 6. Ronda, 7. Leeds, 8. Odis, 9. Troy, 10. Iola, 11. Eaton, 12. Troy, 13. Tracy, 14. Leeds, 15. Minot, 16. Ronda, 17. Leeds, 18. Odis, 19. Troy, 20. Iola, 21. Eaton, 22. Troy, 23. Tracy, 24. Leeds, 25. Minot, 26. Ronda, 27. Leeds, 28. Odis, 29. Troy, 30. Iola, 31. Eaton, 32. Troy, 33. Tracy, 34. Leeds, 35. Minot, 36. Ronda, 37. Leeds, 38. Odis, 39. Troy, 40. Iola, 41. Eaton, 42. Troy, 43. Tracy, 44. Leeds, 45. Minot, 46. Ronda, 47. Leeds, 48. Odis, 49. Troy, 50. Iola, 51. Eaton, 52. Troy, 53. Tracy, 54. Leeds, 55. Minot, 56. Ronda, 57. Leeds, 58. Odis, 59. Troy, 60. Iola, 61. Eaton, 62. Troy, 63. Tracy, 64. Leeds, 65. Minot, 66. Ronda, 67. Leeds, 68. Odis, 69. Troy, 70. Iola, 71. Eaton, 72. Troy, 73. Tracy, 74. Leeds, 75. Minot, 76. Ronda, 77. Leeds, 78. Odis, 79. Troy, 80. Iola, 81. Eaton, 82. Troy, 83. Tracy, 84. Leeds, 85. Minot, 86. 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# Life & Style

# 'Twilight' eclipses record with \$68.5M debut

Fans are over the moon for "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," which pulled in \$68.5 million in its first day to set a new record for a movie debuting on Wednesday.

The third installment in the vampire romance surpassed the previous Wednesday day record of \$62 million set last year by "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen."

But "Eclipse" fell short of the all-time best opening day, a record held by its predecessor, last November's "The Twilight Saga: New Moon," which took in \$72.7 million. "New Moon" opened on a Friday, typically a busier day at theaters than weekdays.

"Eclipse" opened in a record 4,416 theaters and expands to 4,468 cinemas Friday for the Fourth of July weekend, one of the biggest box-office weekends of the year. With so much money already in the bank and a long holiday

weekend ahead, distributor Summit Entertainment hopes "Eclipse" can top the \$200 million haul for "Revenge of the Fallen" in its first five days, a record for a movie opening on Wednesday.

"It certainly is a target for us," said Richie Fay, head of distribution for Summit. "I'd be real hesitant to say that we will break that. We would love to and are striving to. We have the location and screen count that could get us there. But if the weather isn't in our favor, if people are out barbecuing and looking at fireworks Sunday night, we may not get there."

In a single day, "Eclipse" took in a fraction more than the \$68 million the movie cost to produce.

Fay said "Eclipse" followed the pattern of "New Moon," whose audience was 80 percent female. With gener-

ally better reviews on "Eclipse" than its predecessors and a marketing campaign that played up the movie's action, Summit executives hope the latest sequel will draw in more males as the weekend progresses, he said.

"Eclipse" continues the story of brooding teen Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart), caught in a love triangle involving her vampire boyfriend (Robert Pattinson) and her werewolf pal (Taylor Lautner). The new movie forces vampires and werewolves to set aside old rivalries and unite against a band of ravenous newborn bloodsuckers.

The franchise concludes with a two-part adaptation of "Breaking Dawn," the final novel in Stephenie Meyer's best-selling series. Part one of "Breaking Dawn" is due in theaters Nov. 18, 2011. (AP)

## 5 most memorable teen-angst movies

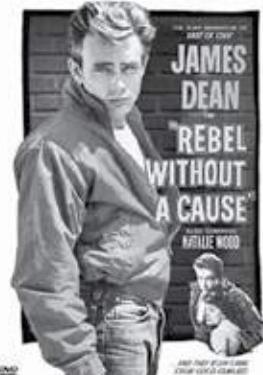
By CHRISTY LEMIRE

AP MOVIE CRITIC

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — The 'tween girls who are fanatical about the "Twilight" series may not be aware of this, but Bella, Edward and Jacob did not invent teen angst. Sure, every word and glance between them feels like the end of the world, but it has felt that way for a long time now.

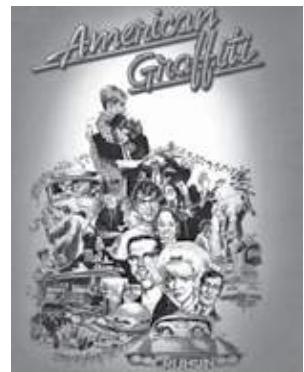
With the release this week of "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," the third film in the franchise, here is a look at some other movies in which, like omigod, everything was super-dramatic:

### "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955)



The mother of all teen-angst movies, full of parents who just do not understand and kids who eloquently express their frustration and disillusionment. James Dean's performance as a young rebel who moves to Los Angeles and clashes with bullies is considered the best work of his short life, and since the film came out a month after his fatal car crash, it added further hype to his tragic persona. Looking at Robert Pattinson as teen vampire Edward Cullen in the "Twilight" films, it is clear that Dean is the inspiration: the wavy hair and sideburns, the jeans, the perpetually sullen expression. If only Dean could have sparkled in the sun...

### "American Graffiti" (1973)



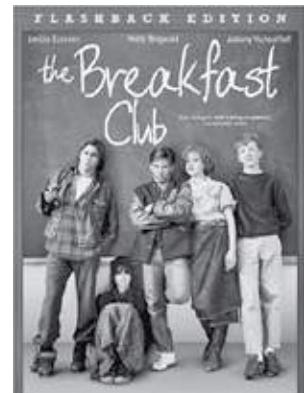
Directed and co-written by pre-"Star Wars" George Lucas and inspired by his own teenage years in Modesto, California, this coming-of-age dramedy nonetheless has great universality. There was plenty of fun to be had here over an August night in 1962, with longtime friends cruising the main drag — joking, flirting, getting into trouble — one last time before heading off to college. But Lucas also keenly captures the sensation of being in flux, of having to carve out a new identity between adolescence and adulthood, and all the nervousness and nostalgia that go along with that. Ron Howard and Richard Dreyfuss lead a great, young cast.

### "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" (1982)

Bracingly honest about the way teens talk and relate, this comedy is an early demonstration of writer Cameron Crowe's excellent ear for dialogue. The plot basically follows a year



### "The Breakfast Club" (1985)



You could also insert "Sixteen Candles" in this space, or "Pretty in Pink," or any number of John Hughes movies. Teen narcissism was the man's bread and butter. But "The Breakfast Club" was the heaviest of them all; its characters took their navel-gazing the most seriously. It also had that star-studded Brat Pack cast of Molly Ringwald, Emilio Estevez, Judd Nelson, Ally Sheedy and Anthony Michael Hall, which makes it more representative of the era than other Hughes films. Lots of fun parts, for sure — Bender messing with Mr. Vernon, the whole crew of Saturday-detention misfits racing through the high-school halls. But the crying and confession on the library floor are what you remember most.

### "Say Anything..." (1989)



That image of John Cusack, holding a boom box over his head and blaring Peter Gabriel's "In Your Eyes," has become iconic, shorthand, even a bit of a cliche, but it says it all. Once again from Crowe, this time directing as well as writing, but here he shows his romantic side. "Say Anything..." is all about longing for that first love, even though, on paper, that person may not be right for you. Doesn't matter. The obsession and torment, the vulnerability and doubt are all part of the process. And by showing all those sides of his character, Cusack forged his on-screen persona as a leading man for the rest of us.

## After discord, Tyler says Aerosmith now at peak

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY

AP MUSIC WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Steven Tyler can laugh about it now.

The fall off the stage that caused the cancellation of Aerosmith's 2009 summer tour. His stint in rehab for prescription drug abuse. The fights with his bandmates, and the talk of replacing him as lead singer for Aerosmith.

That's because now that he's back at the helm of the group—belting out songs in front of thousands of fans—nothing else matters.

"The band has never been better, I'm singing better," said an energetic Tyler in a recent phone interview. "It's been beautiful and I realized when I was taking care of my problems that the band is all I really care about."

Tyler—who is on tour with Aerosmith in Europe and starts a U.S. tour with the band on July 23 in Oakland, California—talked recently about his battle for sobriety, putting the discord behind him and being a "dancing fool" at 62.

**AP: What has it been like to play with the band after the tumultuous last year?**

**Tyler:** It's been a great tour. You know it's a little hard for me. Being in Aerosmith is like living on the tail of a comet. I've had a lot of injuries over the last couple of the years. I had ACL reconstruction on my knee ... operations on my feet, my mom passed away. A lot of things came to play that made it easy for me to abuse some things. ... Even though some of the people in the band were going public with some of the stuff which turned very ugly, I managed to pull it all back together again and say, "Look, let's just get out there and be the band that we know we are and not argue about this crap anymore."

**AP: How easy was that after the ugliness?**

**Tyler:** I realize that certain people that decide to go in the press with dirty laundry, I just have to look the other way and realize I need to keep my side of the street clean, and they do what they do. It's really unfortunate that certain people were Twittering and going to the press. It got really ugly, but you know, again, I just went back to them and I said ... "More than anything, I really want to play with this band. I really love this band and I love who I've become because of the band." ... Everyone's got their problems and their demons, but when we get onstage and play as five, that really all goes away, and that's really all I look at now.

**AP: There has been tension in Aerosmith throughout the years. Are you still able to be friends as well as bandmates?**

**Tyler:** I'm doing a book called "Does the Noise in My Head Bother You," and I will be speaking about what it's like to be married to four

other guys, and what I've had to put up with. ... There will never be another band like Aerosmith, and I just don't want to do anything to hurt that. I love the band so much.

**AP: You are in pain and have battled back from an addiction to pain medicines. How do you prevent yourself from falling into past patterns on this new tour?**

**Tyler:** I realize that the best part of me is who I am sober so that's all there is to it. ... I don't know whether I will use tomorrow, but today I'm happy. ... There's a 500-pound gorilla on my back, waiting in the parking lot for me that wants to take me down, and I won't for any reason go out there and deal with that. I have to



In this June 10, 2009 file photo, lead singer Steven Tyler of the rock band Aerosmith performs at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre in Maryland Heights, Mo.

get a knee replacement, I have to have another operation on my feet, and I'll let a nurse take care of my stuff. I just can't be around that stuff anymore. I need to be a power of example for my bandmates, don't I? (laughs)... I'm still in Aerosmith so the circus is still in town. So when it comes to dealing with the band, I take it a day at a time with these guys.

**AP: Is a new Aerosmith album coming?**

**Tyler:** The truth is I've never stopped writing. I've got 12 songs I'm sitting on right now for a solo record. Aerosmith has to finish a studio album; we're gonna do that first.

**AP: Do you feel that you are more careful onstage now? Are you tentative?**

**Tyler:** I'm a dancing fool out there. I'm my own worst enemy when it comes to risk-taking, but I do what I do. ... I am (more careful) when it's raining. I don't do anything ... I'm real careful when it comes to that. But ordinarily, I've gotten real strong jumping over all the pedals my guitar players have out there in the middle of the stage and the monitor wedges. It's like a little hurdle out there for me.

**AP: Can you see yourself doing this 10, 15 years from now?**

**Tyler:** I'll be doing this 20 years from now. I'll be doing this as long as sound comes out of my mouth.

## Elvis on the big screen again in remastered film

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** (AP)—Elvis Presley is returning to the big screen again in the remastered film “Elvis on Tour: 75th Anniversary Celebration,” which will be shown July 29 at more than 460 movie theaters around the country.

The movie will feature remastered footage of concert performances and interviews from the 1972 documentary “Elvis on Tour”—the singer’s last film before he died in 1977.

The film’s release commemorates the 75th anniversary of Elvis’ birth and includes a retrospective from his former wife, Priscilla Presley, and a montage supervised by director Martin Scorsese. Some of the tour footage has never been released.

“I was thrilled when I heard fans will be gathering in theaters across America on July 29 for this Elvis experience,” Priscilla Presley said in a statement. “Those of us who witnessed Elvis in concert know how incredible it was to see him performing live.”

“Elvis on Tour” follows the singer on a 15-city U.S. tour in April 1972. Written and directed by Robert Abel and Pierre Adidge, it combines rehearsal and backstage footage along with concert performances of “Don’t Be Cruel,” “Hound Dog,” “Suspicious Minds” and other hits.

It also includes Elvis’ appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show and his first performance of “Burning Love.”

The film will be shown again during Elvis Week in Memphis, the annual tribute remembering his contributions to music and American pop culture. This year’s Elvis Week runs from Aug. 10-16.

The new “Elvis on Tour” also will be available as part of a box set featuring 17 of Elvis’ films presented in Blu-ray and DVD formats. Its release is set for Aug. 3.

## Andrew Garfield lands lead role in ‘Spider-Man’

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—There’s a new Spider-Man in town.

Andrew Garfield, whose credits include last year’s Heath Ledger film “The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus,” has been cast as Peter Parker, the average youth who transforms into a superhero, in the next “Spider-Man” movie, distributor Sony Pictures announced Thursday.

The “Spider-Man” film begins shooting in December and is due in theaters July 3, 2012. Marc Webb, who made the romance “(500) Days of Summer” is directing.

Garfield and Webb got the jobs after star Tobey Maguire and director Sam Raimi, who made three blockbuster “Spider-Man” films together, departed amid story and scheduling issues over a fourth movie.

American actor Andrew Garfield poses for photographers during a media event in Cancun, Mexico, Thursday, July 1, 2010. AP

## Meryl Streep in talks to play Margaret Thatcher

**LONDON (AP)**—Cinema chameleon Meryl Streep’s latest challenge: becoming the Iron Lady.

Pathe Films says the two-time Academy Award winner has expressed an interest in playing Margaret Thatcher in a new film about Britain’s first female prime minister.

The London-based producer and distributor said Thursday that discussions are under way with Streep’s representatives,

but no agreement is in place. Written by Abi Morgan (“Sex Traffic,” “Brick Lane”) the film is provisionally titled “The Iron Lady.” Pathe says it “tells the story of a woman who smashed through the barriers of gender and class to be heard in a male-dominated world.”

The director is Phyllida Lloyd, who directed Streep in the Abba musical “Mamma Mia!”

Filming is due to start at the end of the year.



In this March 7, 2010 file photo, actress Meryl Streep arrives during the 82nd Academy Awards in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. AP

## Mel Gibson, ex mum after closed session

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Attorneys for Mel Gibson and his ex-girlfriend have concluded a closed-door hearing with a judge handling their child custody case.

Attorneys for the actor-director and Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva declined to comment on the case, which remains sealed.

The couple split in April. Gibson’s attorney, Stephen Kolodny, says the former couple

entered into a confidential agreement a month later. A child custody case was filed in Los Angeles last month, but those records are sealed.

Neither Gibson or Grigorieva, who have a 7-month-old daughter, attended Thursday’s hearing.

Kolodny has said Gibson has provided his ex-girlfriend with substantial support. Grigorieva said in a statement that she could not discuss the case.



In this March 7, 2010 file photo, actress Meryl Streep arrives during the 82nd Academy Awards in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles. AP

Matt Labov, says the writer-director-producer is developing a movie with Pee-wee’s creator, Paul Reubens. Reubens is co-writing the film, which is described as an on-the-road movie built around a big adventure. Pee-wee’s first film, 1985’s “Pee-wee’s Big Adventure,” spawned a cult TV show featuring the kooky, overgrown boy. Reubens revived his character on stage this year, and that show is set for a 48-performance run on Broadway starting Oct. 26. Apatow’s film credits include “Knocked Up” and “The 40-Year-Old Virgin.”

## Woody Allen to Paris: Like the film, or else

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Pee-wee Herman is coming back to the big screen in a Judd Apatow production. Apatow’s publicist

says the writer-director-producer is developing a movie with Pee-wee’s creator, Paul Reubens. Reubens is co-writing the film, which is described as an on-the-road movie built around a big adventure. Pee-wee’s first film, 1985’s “Pee-wee’s Big Adventure,” spawned a cult TV show featuring the kooky, overgrown boy. Reubens revived his character on stage this year, and that show is set for a 48-performance run on Broadway starting Oct. 26. Apatow’s film credits include “Knocked Up” and “The 40-Year-Old Virgin.”

## Girl resents attention parents lavish on her older brother

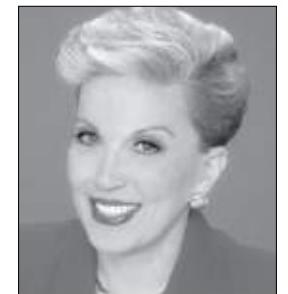
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I’m 13, the youngest of three children, but I am treated with no respect. My parents (mostly my dad) treat my brother like he’s a prince. Even if he loses a football game he is praised. I just started playing volleyball and my team won, but my parents haven’t said anything to me.

Dad treats me and my sister as if we are in the 18th century. We’re supposed to work all the time while our brother is spoiled. Even when we finish working they don’t appreciate it, and I’m always to blame.

Abby, I feel so disrespected. Please help me. I have talked to them about it, but it doesn’t seem to get through.

NEEDS RESPECT IN TAMPA, FLA.



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR NEEDS RESPECT:** Does your sister feel the same way you do? If so, you should approach your mother together and discuss it. Even if your father doesn’t, she should be praising you when you do something right.

I hope you and your sister continue to strive to excel and be recognized, because you may find that while your father isn’t capable of giving you the affirmation you need, others will as you achieve your goals. So bide your time and persevere. If you do, you won’t be sorry.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** A friend of mine, “Ashley,” is being married in September. She invited me to be one of her bridesmaids and my two children to be ring-bearers. I accepted because I felt obligated and didn’t want to hurt her feelings, but now I regret my answer.

Abby, I cannot stand there beside her and support her marrying the man she has chosen. He is dishonest and in debt because of his poor decisions. After three years of dating, Ashley gave him a deadline to propose, and he waited until the last minute. I understand this is her choice—I just cannot support it.

She continues to say how she misses spending time with me, but makes no effort to get together. Needless to say, our friendship is not what it was at one point. My question is, how do I back out now, before it’s too late? And how do I explain things without creating an enemy?

MOMMY OF TWO

**DEAR MOMMY:** Tell her immediately, and here’s how: “Ashley, I can’t be in the wedding. I don’t think this man is good enough for you, and I think you are doing something you will regret later. Please don’t think I don’t care about you because I do, but the children and I cannot be a part of this.”

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Yesterday, after my neighbors went out, the hose on their washing machine broke. Because the faucet had been left in the open position, hot water gushed out all day long, soaking through the floor and flooding their basement. Abby, their basement had just been refinished. The repairs will cost thousands of additional dollars.

My dad warned me about this potential problem years ago. Ever since, I have always turned my faucets off when I am not actually doing laundry.

Please print this so your readers will know to shut off the washing machine faucets unless their machine is in use.

GRATEFUL DAUGHTER IN COLORADO

**DEAR GRATEFUL DAUGHTER:** Thank you for a valuable reminder. Better to take an extra second to turn off the taps than spend hours bailing, mopping and kicking yourself!

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

### Drake postpones European tour due to mom's surgery

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Drake is postponing his 10-city European tour because his mother is undergoing surgery. The 23-year-old rapper says in a statement that he wants to support his mother during her recovery “just as she supported me through the years.” The statement doesn’t say what kind of surgery Drake’s mother is going to have. The European leg of his “The Away From Home Tour” had been scheduled to kick off Friday in Norway. It will be rescheduled for November. Drake will still tour in his home country of Canada, starting July 16 in Ottawa. Last month, Drake released his first full-length album, the gold-selling “Thank Me Later.”

### Dean McDermott hospitalized after motorcycle crash

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Reality star Dean McDermott is being treated for a punctured and collapsed lung after a motorcycle accident. Publicist Meghan Prophet says McDermott will remain in intensive care “for a few more days” but is expected to make a full recovery. McDermott and his wife, Tori Spelling, star in the Oxygen reality show “Tori & Dean: Home Sweet Hollywood.”

### Judd Apatow developing new Pee-wee Herman flick

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Pee-wee Herman is coming back to the big screen in a Judd Apatow production. Apatow’s publicist





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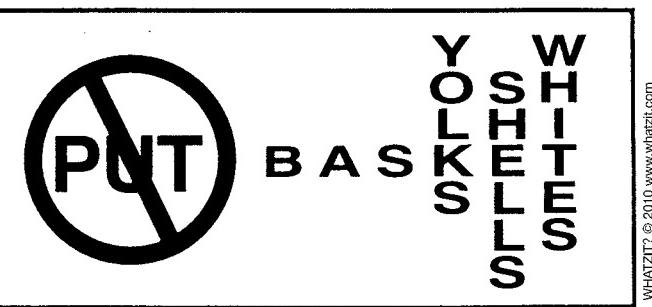
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#### Litigation and Legal Counseling Services

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for litigation and legal counseling services for the institution. Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Wednesday, June 16, 2010 between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Proposal Packages are due no later than 4:00 p.m., July 14, 2010, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available to local vendors in this procurement. For Proposers located outside of the CNMI: You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

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Approved by the following:

/ss/Anita Camacho  
NMC Procurement Manager

/ss/Barbara K. Merfalen  
NMC, Acting Interim President

Elvy Myrna Mangabat Maribbay  
a.k.a. Elvy Myrna Maribbay Wagan  
Address: P.O. Box 504958  
Saipan, MP 96950  
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Elvy Myrna  
Mangabat Maribbay  
a.k.a. Elvy Myrna  
Maribbay Wagan,  
Petitioner,  
v.

FCD-DI  
Civil Action  
No. 10-0295  
  
SUMMONS FOR  
PUBLICATION

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YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint for Divorce, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after the service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Elvy Myrna Mangabat Maribbay a.k.a. Elvy Myrna Maribbay Wagan, whose address is P.O. Box 504958 Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at the Guma Hustisua, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of the Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment of default may be taken against you for the relief in the Petition.

Dated this 30th day of June, 2010

/s/ Clerk of Court

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# Nets, Knicks woo NBA superstar LeBron James



CLEVELAND (AP)—It's a flirtatious courtship, media frenzy and global event rolled into a package unprecedented in sports history.

The recruitment of LeBron James, the NBA's two-time reigning MVP and player for the ages, has become an international soap opera featuring private jets, closed-door meetings and rumors that seemingly change by the second. It's battling the World Cup, Wimbledon and the oil spill for headlines, and its conclusion may not only alter the league's balance of power, but also mean tens of millions of dollars more in revenues for the winning city.

All hail the King. Or at least make him an offer.

On Thursday, James became the most celebrated free agent of our time, touching off a multimillion-dollar bidding war that began with the New Jersey Nets, led by billionaire Russian owner Mikhail Prokhorov and rap mogul Jay-Z. They were followed by the New York Knicks making presentations to the 25-year-old superstar, who must decide if it's time to leave home.

In the next few days, at least six teams, including the sentimental hometown favorites, the Cleveland Cavaliers, will have audiences with James and try to convince him that he should join them to satisfy his ambition of winning a championship and becoming a billionaire.

The Nets will try to sell him Brooklyn—not the bridge, but their next home.

The Knicks will entice him with basketball's Mecca, Madison Square Garden, and the brightest lights.

The Chicago Bulls can offer a talented roster and the chance to walk in Michael Jordan's footsteps.

The Miami Heat are counting on South Beach, a favorable income tax climate and the possibility of teaming up with fellow free agent Dwyane Wade to lure him from Ohio's snow.

The Los Angeles Clippers can offer Hollywood and the chance to do the unthinkable: make them a winner.

And then there's the Cavs, his team for the past seven seasons, who can only hope that his head makes his heart stay close to his Akron home.

Cleveland can offer James, who was already a national figure before he graduated from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, \$30 million more than any other team, thanks to the NBA players' collective bargaining agreement.

Money, though, is not all the 6-foot-8, 260-pound player wants. He's after titles, lots of them.

While he has led the Cavs through their most successful stretch in team history, James has come up short in his pursuit of a championship to solidify his legacy. Cleveland was bounced in the second round of the playoffs this season by the Boston Celtics, who have won 17 titles. That's 17 more than the Cavaliers.

James' decision, which isn't expected to be announced for at least another week, has many fans in this city fearing the worst. After all, this is where sports heartbreak has taken up permanent residence. Ask anyone from Cleveland to recite the local teams' misery since the Browns won the NFL title in 1964, and they'll roll their eyes before rattling off nicknames given to the most gut-wrenching losses by the Indians,



Free agent basketball player LeBron James, left, is driven out of the IMG building in downtown Cleveland, after meeting with representatives of the New Jersey Nets and the New York Knicks basketball teams on Thursday, July 1, 2010.

tographers, reporters and curious onlookers crowded the sidewalks of East 9th Street and St. Clair waiting for James to arrive.

All that was missing was the red carpet.

James, whose 10-story-tall likeness has adorned the side of a building across from Quicken Loans Arena for the past few years, arrived at 10:58 a.m. in a white Cadillac SUV. Wearing a gray Nike T-shirt, sweat pants and sunglasses, he was hardly dressed for the occasion and didn't seem fazed by the magnitude of the moment.

James made a brief stop in the lobby before heading in an elevator to Suite 823, the headquarters of LRMR Marketing, the company he started with boyhood friend Maverick Carter and two other longtime pals. As James exited the corridor, a paparazzi-like phalanx of photographers clicked their cameras through the building's front windows.

Moments later, Prokhorov, whose worth has been estimated at nearly \$10 billion, confidently strolled in alongside Jay-Z, one of the Nets' part owners. Others in New Jersey's delegation carried luggage and computer equipment for a high-tech visual display to James.

About 90 minutes later, the Nets packed up and left town, headed to Chicago for a meeting with Wade and forward Chris Bosh.

"It went well," Nets coach Avery Johnson said.

Jay-Z stayed behind, perhaps for a private talk with James, a longtime friend. But when hip-hop's biggest star was pulling out of the parking garage in the back seat of a luxury sedan, he passed the Knicks' entourage as it arrived in a four-vehicle motorcade for its audience with James.

The Knicks' crew included owner James Dolan, president Donnie Walsh, coach Mike D'Antoni and former Knicks guard Allan Houston. Walsh was brought into the building in a wheelchair following recent neck surgery.

This was New York's moment, one the franchise has been building toward for more than two years. The Knicks have endured a franchise-record nine straight losing seasons but gutted their roster with the hope of signing James, who was in Greenwich Village last weekend looking at a luxury apartment—a sighting that some took to mean he was leaning toward Gotham.

The Knicks have been hoping to get James into a New York state of mind, with Mayor Michael Bloomberg taking part in a "C'Mon LeBron" campaign designed for the Ohio-born superstar.

"I think it went well," D'Antoni told The Associated Press after the Knicks completed their two-hours-plus session with James. "But obviously everyone that gets the chance to talk to him will probably say same the same thing."

James followed the Knicks out the door. He didn't say anything to reporters, presumably driving back to his 40,000-square-foot mansion in Bath, Ohio, where he'll rest up before Friday's scheduled visits by the Heat and Clippers. As he left, a pack of photographers and reporters chased his vehicle, hoping for one signature shot or a clue to what he's thinking.

None came, and for now, no one's sure—maybe not even LeBron himself—where he's going next.

## Jackson returning to coach Lakers next season

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After just one relaxing week in Montana, Los Angeles Lakers coach Phil Jackson decided he can handle another season of the NBA grind.

The two-time defending champions locked up their most important free agent of the summer Thursday when Jackson announced he'll return next season, putting off retirement for at least another year to chase his 12th NBA title.

Jackson said last week he was worn out and leaning toward retirement after the Lakers' third straight long season culminating in the NBA finals. He changed his mind after a week of rest and health evaluation at his offseason home, signing up for the unprecedented chance to win three consecutive NBA championships for the fourth time in his career.

"Count me in," Jackson said. "After a couple weeks of deliberation, it is time to get back to the challenge of putting together a team that can defend its title in the 2010-11 season. It'll be the last stand for me,"

and I hope a grand one."

Jackson, who will turn 65 later this year, is the winningest coach in playoff history and the most successful coach in NBA history by almost any measure.

He has a league-best .705 regular-season winning percentage, a record 225 postseason victories and two more titles than Boston's Red Auerbach, winning five championships with Kobe Bryant's Lakers and six with Michael Jordan's Chicago Bulls. His 1,098 regular-season victories are fifth-most in league history.

The Lakers beat the Celtics in Game 7 of the NBA finals last month to claim their second straight title, wrapping up a season in which Jackson navigated Bryant, Pau Gasol and wild-card newcomer Ron Artest through numerous injuries to win the franchise's 16th title.

Los Angeles has made the finals in seven of Jackson's 10 seasons with the club, and they'll be among the early favorites to win it all again in 2011. The Lakers have surrounded Bryant

with a core in its prime and signed to long-term contracts.

"We're extremely pleased that Phil has decided to return," Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said. "He's not only the best coach for this team, but quite simply the best coach in the history of the NBA."

Jackson's health has been a constant concern in recent years, but he apparently feels strong enough for at least another year. The former New York Knicks player sometimes has difficulty getting up and down from the bench while living with two replaced hips, a sore knee requiring a brace under his suit, and a previous heart problem.

The Lakers released no immediate details about Jackson's new contract. Owner Jerry Buss was widely thought to want Jackson to take a pay cut from the \$14 million he earned last season, including a \$2 million bonus for winning the title, but Jackson always claimed money wouldn't be an issue, even if his proclaimed interest in retirement last week could have been interpreted as a negotiating ploy.

## Cavaliers give Byron Scott 4-year contract

CLEVELAND (AP)—With LeBron or without LeBron, Byron Scott is back coaching in the NBA.

The Cavaliers hired the former New Orleans coach on Thursday, finalizing a reported four-year contract on the same day superstar LeBron James officially became a free agent and heard offers from other teams hoping to lure him away from Cleveland.

Scott, who twice led New Jersey to the NBA finals and won three titles

as a player, will be introduced by the Cavs at a 3 p.m. news conference on Friday at Cleveland Clinic Courts.

"This is a great job and an impressive organization and I am very happy to be a part of it," Scott said in a statement released by the Cavs. "Everything about it just felt like a really good fit for both me and the team. I am anxious to get going and to build on the success the Cavaliers have experienced in recent years."

Browns and Cavaliers.

Losing James might top them all.

"They'll be heartbroken here if he leaves, but we're used to it," said Eric Riley, a Cleveland native and former NBA player, who stopped on a downtown sidewalk to watch the commotion

surrounding the wooing of northeastern Ohio's most famous son.

Cleveland also stands to lose tens of millions of dollars from its already-ravaged economy by one estimate if James decides to skip town. In larger markets like New York or Chicago, he could

bring in hundreds of millions of dollars to businesses.

The scene was surreal outside IMG's international headquarters Thursday as the initial hours of what some have called "The Summer of LeBron" got under way. TV camera crews, photo-

# Serena to face Zvonareva in Wimbledon final



**WIMBLE-  
D O N ,  
E n g l a n d**

(AP)—After Serena Williams moved within a victory of her fourth Wimbledon championship and 13th Grand Slam title overall, she was asked to assess the woman she'll face in Saturday's final, little-known Vera Zvonareva of Russia.

"I don't think she does anything terrible. I think that's the best way to describe her game," Williams said. "She does everything good."

That's a fair, if not necessarily charitable, scouting report. Minutes later came a follow-up: Is there anything Williams herself does "terrible" in tennis or in life?

She hemmed and hawed, then replied, "I don't know. That's a good question. I'm stumped."

It's difficult to find any flaws in Williams' play right now. The No. 1-ranked American has won all 12 sets she's played this fortnight, set a Wimbledon record with 80 aces in the tournament, and reached a third consecutive final at the All England Club by beating Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic 7-6 (5), 6-2 Thursday.

"Well," the defending champion said, "I'm hoping to still peak in the final."

That must be a daunting prospect for the 21st-ranked Zvonareva, who eliminated Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 in Thursday's other semifinal.

Zvonareva is the second-lowest-ranked woman to reach a Wimbledon final, had never gotten past the fourth round here, and will be playing in a title match for the first time in 30 Grand Slam tournaments.

"I always believe in myself. I don't care about what everyone says," said Zvonareva, who drapes a pink, yellow and blue Wimbledon towel over her head during changeovers to block distractions. "I know if I play

my best tennis, I can beat anyone. ... I never look at any odds or comparisons."

So she might not know that Williams is 12-3 in major finals.

Or care that Williams has won five of their previous six meetings.

"On paper, it looks like I should win," said Williams, who is wearing glittering, silver nail polish that sometimes reflects the sun's rays. "But Vera, she's beaten some good people. Her last two matches, she's been down a set, so she's obviously a fighter."

For Williams, it actually might be refreshing to look across the Centre Court net and see someone other than her older sister Venus.

Serena never has beaten anyone other than Venus in a Wimbledon final, winning all-Williams matchups in 2002, 2003 and 2009. Five-time champion Venus got the better of Serena in the 2008 championship match at the grass-court tournament.

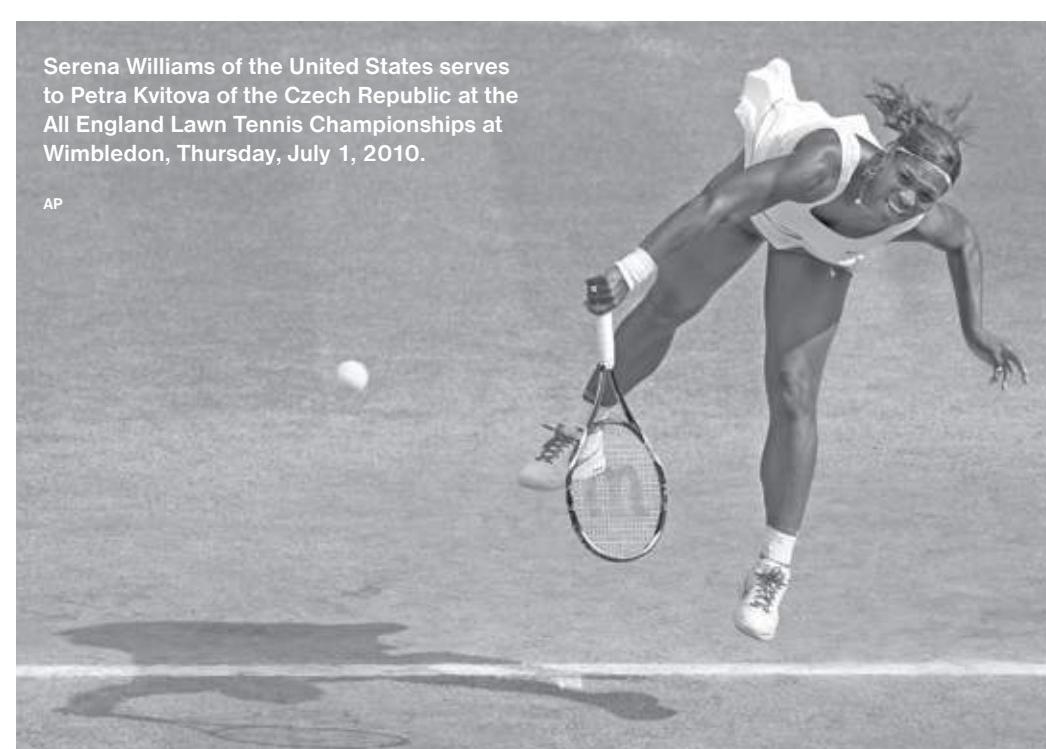
"That's interesting. I guess the crowd should like that—not another Williams-Williams," said their mother and coach, Oracene Price.

At least one of her daughters has reached the Wimbledon final in 10 of the past 11 years. Not facing Venus on Saturday "makes it easier" for Serena to give it her all, Price said.

Venus isn't even in England; she flew home to Florida. She lost in Tuesday's quarterfinals to the 82nd-ranked Pironkova, who along with the 62nd-ranked Kvitova was trying to become the first unseeded women's finalist at Wimbledon.

Pironkova's match against Zvonareva began with dozens of empty green seats in the stands, perhaps because of the lunchtime start—or the low-wattage names on the marquee.

Still, the tennis was entertaining, with both women pounding shots. There was an odd delay in the second game, when



Serena Williams of the United States serves to Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Thursday, July 1, 2010.

AP

Zvonareva's backhand landed in the net, and she immediately grabbed the ball and squeezed, showing it was flat. She handed the ball to chair umpire Eva Asderaki, who announced, "Ladies and gentlemen, the ball is broken, and according to the rules, we will replay the point."

There also was a glitch during the second semifinal, when the speed meter momentarily went out of kilter and showed

that Williams smacked a serve at 138 mph, then Kvitova hit one at 145 mph - which, if correct, would have surpassed the women's record, by far.

Pironkova never made it past the second round in 18 previous Grand Slam appearances, and she hasn't been a finalist at any tour event. But she didn't show nerves early on, breaking Zvonareva's serve to lead 4-2.

Throughout the first set, Pironkova successfully employed the same formula she used to upset Venus Williams and 2007 Wimbledon runner-up Marion Bartoli: mixing speeds and limiting her mistakes.

When Zvonareva netted a

backhand to end that set, she began gesturing and muttering. She's been known as one of tennis' most temperamental players, prone to sobbing on court when things don't go according to plan. Now 25, she insists she's more mature, and it showed Thursday, when she stayed calm enough to make adjustments, hitting deeper into the court and charging forward more and more.

It took 59 minutes for Zvonareva to earn a break point, which she did in the second set's sixth game by returning a 117 mph serve, then watching Pironkova put a backhand into the net. Zvonareva's groundstroke winner made it 4-2, and she shook her fist.

Zvonareva took 10 of the last 13 games. After producing eight winners in the first set, she totaled 23 the rest of the match. In all, Zvonareva won 29 of 35 points when she went to the net.

"She was playing very aggressive, and she was pushing me all the time," Pironkova said.

Zvonareva lost five of seven matches heading to Wimbledon, but she's now on quite a run, including getting past former No.

1s Jelena Jankovic and Kim Clijsters. Plus, she already owns one victory this week over Williams—over both, actually—by teaming with Elena Vesnina to eliminate the top-seeded sisters in the doubles quarterfinals.

The Williams sisters didn't show up for a news conference after that loss and were fined \$4,000 each, something Serena said she was "shocked to hear."

That was about the only bad news for her Thursday, other than a brief early deficit against the left-handed Kvitova, a 20-year-old with braces and a go-for-broke attitude.

Kvitova went ahead 3-2 by breaking Williams' serve, then held to 4-2. But Williams broke back to 4-all when Kvitova missed a forehand. Then, at 6-3 in the tiebreaker, the far-more-experienced Williams held three set points—and let the first two slip away. On the third, Williams hit a service winner at 115 mph.

"I couldn't return," Kvitova said. "She has a great serve."

Williams hit seven aces, reached 119 mph, and didn't face a break point in the second set.

ris to stop at third, loading the bases. Ryota Igarashi relieved Feliciano.

## Pirates 3, Phillies 2

At Pittsburgh, Daniel McCutchen became the second Pittsburgh rookie in as many days to win for the first time this season, pitching into the sixth inning.

Rookies Jose Tabata and Pedro Alvarez drove in a run each as the Pirates beat a team with a winning record for only the second time in 33 games since May 25. Their last victory over an above-.500 team was a 6-3 win over San Francisco on June 5.

## Nationals 2, Mets 1

At Washington, Ryan Zimmerman hit a sacrifice fly in the ninth inning to give Washington the win over New York.

Pinch-hitter Willie Harris started the rally with one out in the ninth by walking on a full-count pitch from Pedro Feliciano (2-4). After a sacrifice moved the runners, Christian Guzman singled to left but Jesus Feliciano cut off the sharply hit ball and forced Har-

While acknowledging Williams' serving is "a very big advantage, I would say, especially here," Zvonareva also said: "There will be moments where she doesn't make a first serve. I haven't seen anyone make 100 percent of first serves."

Zvonareva's good with numbers. She's pursuing a master's degree in international economic relations at the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow.

Williams took over Thursday by breaking to 3-2 in the second set, thanks to four miscues by Kvitova, who practices at the same tennis club in the Czech Republic as Tomas Berdych, who upset six-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer in the quarterfinals.

The best point of the day came in the seventh game of the second set. It was a 19-stroke exchange that included terrific defense by both players and an over-the-shoulder volley by Kvitova, who eventually won the point with a forehand. She and the 28-year-old Williams both paused to catch their breath afterward.

"That was really exciting. Believe it or not, I even thought so," Williams said. "I thought if I could have won that rally, it would have been an awesome fist pump."

Instead, she took the next two points, and a 5-2 lead, when Kvitova pushed a backhand wide, then double-faulted. Williams served out the victory, closing with a backhand winner that clipped the net and landed in.

She waved to the crowd, then did a little curtsy. Unlike Zvonareva, Williams knows how it feels to reach a Wimbledon final—and win one.

"I've been in this situation before—where I did put pressure on myself and actually ended up losing. I learned from that, hopefully," Williams said. "Win, lose or draw, I'm happy to have gotten this far."

eight of their last 11, lead the National League with 99 homers.

## Rockies 7, Giants 3

At Denver, Carlos Gonzalez hit an early two-run homer and Aaron Cook threw 6 1-3 sharp innings as Colorado downed Dan Francisco.

Dexter Fowler stole two bases and scored twice as the Rockies won for the third time in four games.

## Astros 6, Padres 3, 10 innings

At San Diego, Michael Bourn hit a two-run triple in the 10th inning to lead Houston past San Diego.

Luke Gregerson (2-3) walked Humberto Quintero and Oswaldo Navarro with two outs before Bourn tripled to center field to break a 3-all tie. Jeff Keppinger, who had three RBIs, then singled home Bourn.

## A-Rod, Sabathia lead Yankees past Mariners, 4-2



**NEW YORK**

(AP)—Alex Rodriguez hit

a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the eighth inning and CC Sabathia won his sixth straight start as the New York Yankees beat the Seattle Mariners 4-2 on Thursday to avoid a three-game sweep.

Robinson Cano added a solo shot for the Yankees, shut down by Seattle co-aces Cliff Lee and Felix Hernandez the previous two nights.

### Indians 6, Blue Jays 1

At Cleveland, Justin Masterson took a shutout into the ninth inning and Matt LaPorta homered for the third straight game as Cleveland downed Toronto for a season-high fifth-straight win.

Toronto has lost five in a row, matching its worst streak this year.

### Athletics 8, Orioles 1

At Baltimore, Trevor Cahill allowed four hits over seven innings and Ryan Sweeney had four hits as Oakland trounced Baltimore.

Sweeney, Jack Cust and Cliff Pennington had two RBIs each for the A's, who took two of three for their first road series win in five tries since May 29-31 in Detroit. Oakland has won four series away from home, half of them in Baltimore.

### Rays 5, Twins 4, 10 innings

At Minneapolis, Willy Aybar hit a single off Matt Guerrier to give Tampa a 10th-inning win

over Minnesota.

Jon Rauch blew a save for the fourth time this season when Carl Crawford — who had four hits and an RBI — singled and scored on Evan Longoria's tying double in the ninth.

### Angels 2, Rangers 1

At Anaheim, California, Jered Weaver allowed two hits over seven scoreless innings to lead Los Angeles past Texas.

The second-place Angels took two of three from the Rangers, whose AL West lead was reduced to 3 1/2 games — still the largest in the American League.

### Reds 3, Cubs 2

At Chicago, pinch-hitter Miguel Cairo singled and scored in the 10th as Cincinnati beat the

**TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES****MLB STANDINGS****AMERICAN LEAGUE****East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	48	30	.615	—
Boston	47	32	.595	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	46	32	.590	2
Toronto	40	40	.500	9
Baltimore	24	54	.308	24

**Central Division**

Minnesota	43	36	.544	—
Detroit	41	36	.532	1
Chicago	40	37	.519	2
Kansas City	34	45	.430	9
Cleveland	31	47	.397	11 1/2

**West Division**

Texas	47	31	.603	—
Los Angeles	45	36	.556	3 1/2
Oakland	39	41	.488	9
Seattle	33	45	.423	14

**NATIONAL LEAGUE****East Division**

Atlanta	46	33	.582	—
New York	44	35	.557	2
Philadelphia	41	36	.532	4
Florida	37	41	.474	8 1/2
Washington	35	45	.438	11 1/2

**Central Division**

Cincinnati	45	35	.563	—
St. Louis	43	36	.544	1 1/2
Milwaukee	36	43	.456	8 1/2
Chicago	34	45	.430	10 1/2
Houston	32	48	.400	13
Pittsburgh	28	51	.354	16 1/2

**West Division**

San Diego	46	33	.582	—
Los Angeles	43	35	.551	2 1/2
Colorado	42	37	.532	4
San Francisco	40	38	.513	5 1/2
Arizona	31	48	.392	15

**Yesterday's Games**

Cincinnati 3, Chicago Cubs 2, 10 innings  
Washington 2, N.Y. Mets 1  
Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 2  
Milwaukee 4, St. Louis 1  
Colorado 7, San Francisco 3  
Houston 6, San Diego 3, 10 innings  
Cincinnati 3, Chicago Cubs 2, 10 innings  
Washington 2, N.Y. Mets 1  
Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 2  
Milwaukee 4, St. Louis 1  
Colorado 7, San Francisco 3  
Houston 6, San Diego 3, 10 innings

**AT&T NATIONAL SCORES**

**NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pennsylvania**  
(AP) — Scores Thursday from the AT&T National, a \$6.2 million US PGA Tour event at 7,237-yard, par-70 Aronimink Golf Club:

**FIRST ROUND**

Arjun Atwal	33-33-66
Joe Ogilvie	32-34-66
Jason Day	32-34-66
Nick Watney	34-32-66
John Mallinger	34-33-67
Brian Gay	33-34-67
Michael Letzig	34-33-67
Brett Quigley	34-33-67
Ryan Moore	32-35-67
Carl Pettersson	35-32-67
Tim Herron	35-33-68
Tom Gillis	33-35-68
Ryuji Imada	35-33-68
Steve Marino	32-36-68
Scott McCarron	33-35-68
Bob Estes	33-35-68
Jeff Overton	36-32-68
Billy Mayfair	34-34-68
Kris Blanks	34-35-69
Ted Purdy	35-34-69
Rickie Fowler	35-34-69
Derek Lamely	34-35-69
Daniel Chopra	33-36-69
Jim Furyk	36-33-69

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**FISHING**

From Page 28

*Sta. Remedio* won the grand prize and its name engraved on the perpetual six-foot tall trophy in last year's competition after landing a 319.5-lb. Pacific blue marlin.

The boat's crew also took home \$3,000 and was only the seventh boat to win the trophy since it was first given in 2000.

The Top 3 placers in other five categories were also awarded with cash prizes and wooden trophies, while *Senor Dung* of Rota was awarded the Mobil Cup given to the total weight winner.

Last year, *Cabo Express* won in the billfish category, while *Nombei* topped the yellow-fin division. *Padre De Familia* ruled

the wahoo category, *Tweety Bird* prevailed in the mahi-mahi class, and *Botin Saba* notched the skipjack division.

Other sponsors of the event include Monster Energy, Gatorade NTT Docomo Pacific, Pepsi, Mobil, National Park Service, CNMI Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marianas Visitors Authority, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc., and Department of Public Safety.

Pre-registration for the event takes place on July 16 at the Smiling Cove Marina from 5pm to 6:30pm.

For courtesy boat inspections, please contact the DPS-Boating Division at 664-9182 or contact Frank Tudela of the MVA at 664-3200/01 or send inquiries to ftudela@mymarianas.com. *Walter Sutherland*

# Atwal, Tiger's practice partner, tops at Aronimink

**NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa.**

(AP) — In the five years Arjun Atwal has been playing practice rounds with Tiger Woods at home in Florida, he learned long ago to stop comparing himself with the world's No. 1 player.

There was no comparison Thursday in the AT&T National.

Atwal made seven birdies in his round of 4-under 66 and was in a four-way tie for the lead at Aronimink Golf Club. Woods threw away five shots over the last five holes and opened with a 3-over 73, making it a challenge Friday just to make the cut.

"It was a very frustrating day on the greens, especially how good I was driving it," Woods said. "I was driving it on a string all day."

Atwal had no such complaints after finding himself atop the leaderboard with Nick Watney, Joe Ogilvie and Byron Nelson winner Jason Day on a tough day at Aronimink, where the pin locations made it difficult to attack the flags.

Playing on a sponsor's exemption—spending so much time with Woods has its perks—Atwal recovered from a bogey on his opening hole with three straight birdies, all of them inside 12 feet, and kept the mis-

takes to a minimum.

"Four under, I think, is a great score for me or anybody on this golf course," Atwal said. "I'll take it every day."

Woods, who won the AT&T National last year at Congressional, had his best round of the year off the tee. He hit driver on all but three holes on the treelined course with rough nearly as thick as it was in the U.S.

Open at Pebble Beach. He just didn't give himself that many birdie chances, and when he did, he couldn't make any.

His only two birdies were from 4 feet on the opening hole, and a 60-foot putt from the back of the green on the par-3 fifth. What hurt even more, however, was the finish.

Woods was at 1 under and poised to join the crowd toward the top of the leaderboard. Then came a three-putt from 50 feet on the 14th to bring him back to even par. Then, he really unraveled.

After laying up perfectly from the rough on the par-5 16th, he had 82 yards to a front pin. His swing was so bad that Woods flung the wedge toward his bag and started walking as it flared

to the right and into the bunker. He made bogey on the easiest hole on the course.

The par-3 17th proved to be the toughest hole at Aronimink. No one hit it closer than 15 feet all day on the 197-yard hole over water, and Jonathan Byrd made the lone birdie. Woods tried to hammer a 6-iron toward the middle of the green, but he turned it and watched it come up short on the shaved bank and trickle down into the water. From the drop area, he hit it to 15 feet and made double bogey.

Walking quickly to the 18th, Woods hit his best drive of the day and followed that with a wedge to 5 feet. His round ended appropriately when the birdie putt caught the corner of the cup and spun away.

Woods will start the second round Friday morning in a tie for 81st, needing a good round to stick around for the weekend in a tournament that benefits the Tiger Woods Foundation.

"I keep hitting it like this, I'll be fine," Woods said. "The putts will start going in. It felt good to drive it on a string again."

It felt great for Atwal, who is playing on a minor medical ex-

tension this year after injuring his shoulders while lifting weights last year. He has eight more tournaments to earn about \$280,000 and retain full playing status for the rest of the year.

Atwal, who grew up playing Royal Calcutta in his native India, was the first Indian to win on the European Tour in 2002. He also made news when a man trying to race him down an Orlando street died in a crash. Atwal was cleared of any wrongdoing, although the investigation lasted a year and took an emotional toll.

Lately, however, he is best known for playing with Woods—not only at Isleworth, but three rounds of practice at the U.S. Open.

"As far as comparing myself with him ... it's strange, because we practice and play every day, so I've stopped doing that," Atwal said. "Initially, when I used to practice and play with him, I used to compare myself. But now, it's just ... whatever. He's always helped me if I have any questions about short game or whatever it is. He's always been there."

Asked what kind of bets they have at Isleworth, Atwal smiled and said, "No comment."

**GREAT**

From Page 28

38:25. Kimball is 12 years old and had been to the same course twice.

Kindel is 58 years old and had never tried the dangerous crossing before, so you can just imagine the jitters she felt days before the race and in the morning of the crossing itself. However, once in the water and in the company of fellow swimmers, all worries were gone and what's left was just a ready smile at the finish line.

"We were all worried the day before the event because of the weather and white caps on the lagoon. I had expected to be scared or uneasy but I wasn't," Kindel said.

"It was a wonderful experi-

ence. The swimmers spread out quickly after the start. But Lewie Tenorio and I had agreed to swim together and not to race, so that helped psychologically and physically. I was told this was a much tougher swim than in years past. There were swells coming from our left but, fortunately I breathed on my right so I wasn't impacted too much by the rough water. The water was deep and the visibility wasn't good, but we were able to swim in a straight line, thanks to our kayakers who helped us stay on course and sighting off the channel and finishing line buoys," Kindel said.

Though it was her first time to join the Escape, Kindel said

she did not have much trouble crossing the channel, as she had been into swimming on Saipan for about 10 years and also had experience in the

mainland all traveled to Saipan to participate in the event.



Serena to face Zvonareva in Wimbledon final  
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Nets, Knicks woo NBA superstar LeBron James

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Rezne leads CNMI swim team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**T**wo veterans and nine first-timers will be the CNMI's bets to the medal-rich swimming competition in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.

The returnees are Rezne Wong and Amanda Johnson, while debuting in the Micro Games are Junior Pamaran, Michael Moran, Andrew and Grace Kimball, Keanna Villagomez, Victoria Chentsova, Kai Staal, and Kensuke and Shin Kimura.

**"Tia de Preril"** Wong is the defending gold medalist in the 200m individual medley swim. He timed in at two minutes, 25.43 seconds in the 200m IM to beat Guam's Tasi Limtiaco and Ken Barcias.

Wong also won silver medals in the 400m freestyle relay, 200m breaststroke, 800m freestyle, 400m IM, and 100m breaststroke, and bronze in the 200m freestyle. In the relay races, Wong teamed up with David Palacios, and Juan and Michael Camacho.

Johnson was also part of the gold medal relay team of the CNMI, joining forces with Nina Mosley, Nicole Calvo, Sarah Johnson, and Minerva Cabrera. Amanda won gold medals in the 400m and 800m freestyle relays, silver in the 200m IM, and bronze in



A. Kimball

G. Kimball

Chentsova

K. Kimura



Johnson

Wong

Staal



Moran

Pamaran

S. Kimura

Villagomez

the 50m and 100m butterfly and 200m breaststroke races.

Johnson then was inactive in swimming for a few years after the 2006 Micronesian Games before returning to the pool last year.

Wong continued to improve after his Micro Games debut and represented the CNMI to the FINA World Championships last year in Rome, Italy. He is also part of the traveling team of the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

CNMI's hopes to haul medals in the 7th Micronesian Games will fall heavily on the shoulders of Wong and sprint swim specialist Staal. Staal in the past two years had broken CNMI records in short distance races.

Staal joined Wong and Shin Kimura in last year's world championship, while Kensuke competed in a couple of tournaments in Japan. The rest of the team competed in occasional meets on Saipan and in Guam.

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's Hiro Kimura will coach the men's team, while Saipan Swim Club's Michael Villagomez will call the shots for the women's side.

The CNMI collected 15 gold medals, 19 silver, and 15 bronze when Saipan hosted the 2006 edition of the quadrennial event. The host finished second overall behind Guam in the gold-silver-bronze medal tally, but the CNMI won the most medals with 98. The CNMI earned 34 gold medals, 33 silver, and 31 bronze against Guam's 51-27-18 tally.

## Great 'Escape' for Suzy Kindel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The first time is not always the hardest one as proven by Suzy Kindel, who debuted in the 2010 Escape from Managaha with ease.

Kindel was among the 27 swimmers who successfully completed the Managaha to Micro Beach race late



last month. She braved the treacherous waters off the channel and timed in at one hour, one minute, and 29 seconds in the 2.7-kilometer race.

Andrew Kimball was the first overall finisher in the race after clocking in at

See GREAT on Page 27



Suzy Kindel, right, prepares to move out of the water with Lewie Tenorio during the 2010 Escape from Managaha.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Saipan Sports Fest set for March 2011

By WALTER SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

The 2011 Saipan Sports Fest—XTERRA Saipan Championship and Tagaman Triathlon—is scheduled to take place sometime in March 2011.

Companies interested in sponsoring or individuals wanting to donate for the biggest sporting event in the



CNMI can contact event organizer, Taga, Inc.

For many years, the Marianas Visitor Authority has been a major spon-

sor for these events and its support will always be appreciated now and in the future, but the state of the government's finances are such that organizers need to look for help everywhere.

The 21-year-old Tagaman Triathlon is the longest running race in the western Pacific. The event is named after Taga, a legendary chief of the ancient

See SAIPAN on Page 27

Participants in the 2010 XTERRA Saipan Championship wait for the start of the swim race at Micro Beach.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



## Saipan Int'l Fishing tourney set for July 17-18



The Saipan Fishermen's Association, along with Miller Lite, Continental Airlines, and other sponsors will host the 26th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament scheduled on July 17 and 18.

The SFA will award \$10,000 to the first boat to land a marlin weighing over 624.34 lbs.

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